Westfield State Athletics
(part 16)
2001 - 2002
2002 - 2003

Bob Farr
Class of 1995

Westfield State Athletics

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Bob Farr
Class of 1955

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Bob Farr
Class of 1955

Mascot creates new image for owls

If you see a six-foot-tall, bright blue creature with big yellow feet strolling the Westfield State campus these days, don't be alarmed: it's not Big Bird holding his breath. It's your alma mater's new mascot.

The costumed creature is the three-dimensional version of the new Westfield State College athletics logo, an updated graphic rendering of the college's established mascot. The newly-hatched owl immediately won over alumni like John Griffin '80, head baseball coach.

The new logo looks nice," Griffin said. "It is going to enhance our fund-raising efforts."

John plans to sell hats sporting the design to raise money for his team's annual spring training trip south. Such uses for the new athletics logo will supplement its on team uniforms, hats, and helmets; it will also adorn playing courts and fields, stationery, and publications.

The logo is copyrighted, which means it cannot be altered and it is also trademarked, which means it can only be reproduced if the college receives royalties. There will also be guidelines for campus use of the logo.

We were looking for an owl that had some character but wasn't overly aggressive. This owl was designed to give us a more modern, fresh look," said assistant athletics director Nancy Bals, who chaired the committee overseeing the logo development project. "This logo is a unique owl and it highlights our school colors [blue and white]. It is very important that the students like the logo. If they like it, they will remain loyal to the image, the athletics department, and the college for years even after they graduate."

Basketball player Alissa Tedesco '03 likes it indeed. "I love the new owl. It's great!" she enthused.

Student-athlete endorsement of the new look also plays a role in promoting team spirit.

Players now have something to identify with," said Hilary Ducharme, head women's volleyball coach. "It helps our image and makes us comparable to other schools—more up-to-date."

"There are good reasons why professional as well as big time college sports have mascots," said Ken Magarian, director of athletics. "The initial reason is for the crowd and spectators.

-Photo by Davide Harris Fried

Westfield State's new mascot meets with graphic designer Phil Aucell of Westfield, who created the new Owl logo. A student contest will be held during September to name the mascot, with a $250 grand prize. There will be a box to place suggestions at varsity athletic contests and in the campus center lobby.

Then there is the working with the cheerleaders and the band—the mascot sort of finishes the circle of support for the team, and makes it easier for the crowd to follow and get involved."

The "new owl" was first unveiled at campus spring weekend festivities in April, when a visiting band tossed 60 t-shirts featuring the design into the crowd. Students who were lucky recipients of the t-shirts began wearing them immediately.

Phil Aucella, a talented graphic designer who lives in Westfield, created the logo after extensive research into the owl's features, particularly New England species, and numerous meetings with college representatives. Providing input were athletics director Ken Magarian; assistant athletics director Mickey Curtis; public affairs director Jeanne Julian; faculty athletics representative Ed Abar; Barry Maloney, assistant to the president; the late Larry Naftulin, who was director of development; and members of the Student-Athlete Advisory Board.

The athletics department has recognized the need for a consistent athletics logo for some time, according to Magarian. With a strong endorsement from President Woodward, the initiative was finally funded through marketing funds earmarked by the college's multi-department marketing team, chaired by Julian.

In the meantime, a grant to receive funds for a mascot costume was applied for and received from the WSC Foundation. Once the design of the logo was complete, the college commissioned a costume and the mascot will be coming to life. The costume will be worn by selected students who will represent the college at various college and town functions. The student body will be invited to name the mascot through a contest.

Our mascot is going to be our number one fan and cheerleader at games. As a visual reminder of the college and the athletics program, the mascot can and will go everywhere, including most college events. Our owl will represent good spirit, friendliness and the positive image of Westfield State, on behalf of everyone associated with the college," said Magarian.

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Westfield State Intramural Activities

Activity	Entry/Roster Due & Captain's Meeting	Play Begins
1 Pitch Softball (M & W)	Mon. Sept. 10	Tues. Sept. 11
Flag Football League (M & W)	Mon. Sept. 10	Tues. Sept. 11
Volleyball League (M & W)	Wed. Sept. 12	Mon. Sept. 17
3-3 Basketball League (M & W)	Wed. Sept. 12	Mon. Sept. 17
Tennis Singles (M & W)	Wed. Sept. 12	Mon. Sept. 17
Golf Tournament (M & W)	Registration not required-Call x5424	TBA
Punt, Pass, & Kick Contest (M & W)	Drop in event, contact office for time, location	Wed. Oct. 17
Soccer League (M & W)	Wed. Oct. 10	Mon. Oct. 15
Billiards League (M & W)	Wed. Oct. 10	Mon. Oct. 15
5-5 Basketball League (M & W)	Wed. Oct. 17	Sun. Oct. 21
Co-ed Volleyball League	Wed. Oct. 17	Mon. Oct. 22
Co-ed Water Polo League	Wed. Oct. 17	Mon. Oct. 22
Banacos Road Race (M & W)	Drop in event, contact office for time, location	Sat. Nov. 17
Indoor Soccer League (M & W)	Thurs. Jan. 24	Mon. Jan. 28
4-4 Basketball League (M & W)	Thurs. Jan. 24	Mon. Jan. 28
Candlepin Bowling League (M & W)	Thurs. Jan. 24	Mon. Jan. 28
Co-ed Wallyball League	Wed. Jan. 30	Mon. Feb. 4
Raquetball Single League	Wed. Jan. 30	Mon. Feb. 4
Water Basketball League (M & W)	Wed. Jan. 30	Mon. Feb. 4
March Hoop La (1-1, Free Throw, 3 Pt. Contests) (M & W)	Drop in event, contact office for time, location	Sun. Mar. 3
Floor Hockey League (M & W)	Wed. Mar. 6	Mon. Mar. 18
Sport Trivia League (M & W)	Wed. Mar. 20	Mon. Mar. 25
Softball League (M & W)	Wed. Mar. 20	Sun. Mar. 24
Co-ed Softball League	Wed. Mar. 20	Sun. Mar. 24
Co-ed Sand Volleyball League	Thurs. Mar. 21	Mon. Mar. 25
Ultimate Frisbee League (M & W)	Thurs. Mar. 21	Mon. Mar. 25
Home Run Derby (M & W)	Drop in event, contact office for time, location	Wed. May 1

Westfield State Football Features Veteran Team

By Mickey Curtis, SID

Steve Marino has been around long enough to know not to make any bold predictions. But he still has a pretty good feeling, and rightly so, about his 2001 Westfield State College football team.

The Owls feature plenty of experience, returning all but three starters from last year's 3-6 squad. Whether this experience can translate into more victories in the increasingly competitive New England Football Conference is the key question.

"I really don't know what to expect in terms if how well we're going to do," said Marino, who begins his 12th season as Westfield's head coach. "Our first team did have a fairly competitive scrimmage against Springfield College."

Defensively, Marino expects his squad to be better than last season when it allowed an average of 17.6 points per game. Leading the defensive charge is senior end Tim Corr, who has racked up some impressive numbers, including 17 sacks in the last two seasons, for the Owls. The 6-4, 215-pounder was an All Conference selection last season and should contend for All New England honors this year.

"I think Tim Corr can be a very good player for us; I think he can be even better," said Marino. "He's a tough kid to block. You look at him and he doesn't look that impressive (physically) but you can't block him."

To even further strengthen the defense, the Owls have a number of players returning who were sidelined with season-ending ailments in 2000. Sophomore outside linebacker Mike Hurteau was the team's third leading tackler as a freshman in 1999; he didn't play last year because of an illness.

Another key addition is junior middle linebacker Josue Zamora. The Hartford, Conn., native begins his first year of football for the Owls after starring on the baseball diamond the past two seasons.

"Josue is a very talented player," said Marino.

In the defensive secondary, four of the five key players were sidelined for all or part of last season with injuries.

"I think the defense we put out onto the field can be good; we just have to stay healthy," said Marino. "We had a good defense last year and we didn't have the depth we have this year."

Offensively, the Owls simply need to score more. Last season they averaged 16.7 points per game. In three games they didn't score a touchdown and in two others they only crossed the goal line once.

"It is essential that we get better offensively," said Marino. "We do have experience and we should be better, but a lot depends on how our quarterback plays. We have to rely on our defense early."

Experience abounds offensively, with nine of 11 starters returning, including the entire receiver-tight end and running back units. But the all-important quarterback position features a newcomer this season - sophomore Chris Lapointe, a 6-3, 225 pound transfer from Central Connecticut State. Lapointe was an All Western Mass. standout at Turners Falls High School.

"Chris has a strong arm; he throws the ball well and has a good touch," said Marino. "He just has to understand what we want him to do and he has to get comfortable with the offense."

Junior Jesse Phelps of Greenfield is No. 2 on the quarterback depth charts. He also may see action at running back, where he played some last season.

"Phelps is a jack of all trades for us," said Marino. "He throws well and gives us depth at several positions."

Expect sophomore Matt Yvon to be Lapointe's primary target. The Springfield Cathedral High School graduate led the Owls with 22 receptions in 2000. Also returning is senior running back Shawn Lyman of West Springfield, who rushed for 683 yards last season while averaging nearly 19 carries per game.

"Lyman is a guy we expect to carry the ball 20-25 times a game, and we'll spell him with Don Jones," said Marino.

Jones is a talented first-year player who set a school record with 2,043 rushing yards at Springfield Central High School.

"Don is a strong kid (at 5-6, 160 pounds)," said Marino. "And he's not just a dancer when he gets the ball. He has good quickness and he's shifty."

One area that concerns Marino a great deal is the kicking game. Lost to graduation is Chicopee's John Frasco, who kept the Owls competitive last season with his punting and placekicking. Frasco was All New England and one of the top punters in the nation last season, averaging 39.5 yards per boot. Frasco, who made all eight field goals he attempted in his college career, holds the school record for extra points made (40) and ranks third in career points (136).

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Owls Position Outlook

OFFENSIVE LINE

The offensive line has plenty of experience despite the presence of only one senior on the front five. Senior left guard George Emmanuel is a returning starter who also saw considerable action in his first two seasons. Junior tackle Doug Kaczmarcyzyk of Athol has started since his freshman season, while junior right guard Dave Duquette was a first teamer as a sophomore. Junior left Pete Feeley returns after sitting out the past two seasons. Anchoring the center position is sophomore Rob Byrne of Ludlow, who started as a freshman. Freshmen who provide depth are center Randy Coryer, Vern Crownshaw and John Kelley.

RECEIVERS/TIGHT ENDS

The Owls have plenty of familiar faces here, too. Alternating at tight end for the second consecutive year are juniors Brian Matuszko, a 6-5, 250-pounder from South Deerfield, and Kevin "Chaos" Vaughn of Chicopee. Tom Walsh, a 6-2, 275-pounder who is listed as a fullback, also may see action here. Leading the receiving corps is talented sophomore Matt Yvon of East Longmeadow (Cathedral High School), who led the Owls last year with 22 catches for 405 yards and four touchdowns. Yvon's starting mate is speedy senior David Eaton, who also stars in track and field for the Owls. Sophomore Erik Consilvio was Westfield's second-leading pass receiver in 2000 with eight catches for 135 yards. He adds depth along with sophomore Brendon Sullivan and freshman David Trueira, who averaged 20 yards per reception at Wilmington High School.

OFFENSIVE BACKS

Sophomore Chris Lapointe has been given the starting nod at quarterback heading into the season. The 6-3, 225-pound sophomore transfer from Central Connecticut State was an All Western Mass. standout at Turners Falls High School in Franklin County. Junior Jesse Phelps, another Franklin County product from Greenfield, is listed as No. 2 on the depth charts. Phelps, who has thrown just six passes in his first two seasons at Westfield, also may see action at running back. The Owls are established at tailback and fullback with returning starters Shawn Lyman and P.J. Lorentzen. Lyman, a senior from West Springfield, has rushed for 1,207 yards on 299 carries in three seasons, including 683 yards and a team-high six touchdowns in 2000. Lorentzen, a senior tri-captain, led the Owls in yards per rush (4.3) last season. The Owls have a three talented freshmen running backs who starred at Western Mass. high schools in Don Jones (Springfield Central), Matt Wooliver (Mt. Greylock), and Craig Skribiski (Frontier Regional). Jones was the Western Mass. MVP last season as he set a school record with 2,043 rushing yards. Wooliver was the Berkshire County MVP; the 5-11, 205-pounder may see action at both tailback and fullback.

DEFENSIVE LINE

The defensive front should create plenty of excitement this season led by fifth-year senior Tim Corr. The rangy 6-4, 215-pound end was a first team selection in the 14-team New England Football Conference last season when he led the Owls with seven sacks, 14 tackles for losses and three fumble recoveries. During his sophomore year in 1999 he created havoc with 10 sacks, 16 tackles for losses, two fumble recoveries, three fumbles caused and three blocked kicks. Other returning starters on the defensive front are junior end John Cloutier of Chicopee and sophomore tackle Stevie Faniel. Cloutier - a converted fullback - posted 4.5 sacks last year. The other tackle slot will be manned by either senior Derek Jeppe or freshman Casey Lawrence. Depth is provided by freshmen ends Jesse Holmes of Springfield Central and Dan Sloan of Turners Falls.

LINEBACKERS

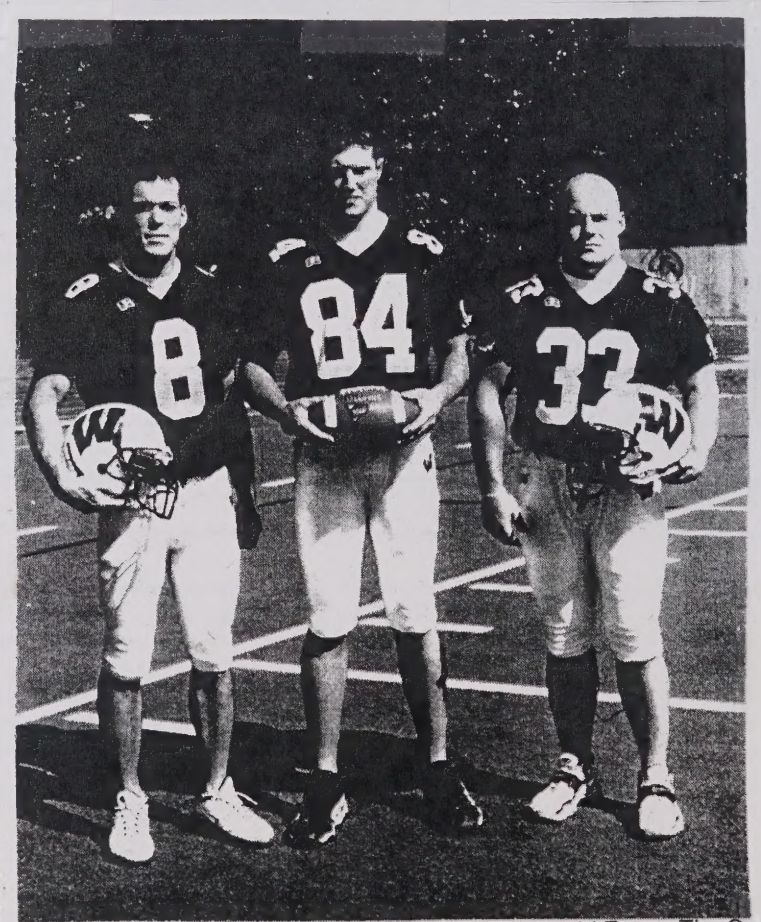
This is also a strong position for the Owls. Returning starters are juniors Jaret Foley and Dan Fitzgerald, the team's second (70) and third (69) leading tacklers last year. Also returning is sophomore Mike Hurteau, who sat out the entire 2000 campaign with an illness. Hurteau made an immediate impact as a freshman in 1999 and was the team's third leading tackler. Expected to do the same this season is junior Josue Zamora, a first-year player who was an All-State selection at Weaver High School in Hartford, Conn. Zamora starred on the baseball diamond his first two years at Westfield State. The coaching staff is high on freshmen Chris Brown and Dave Granados.

DEFENSIVE BACKS

The Owls have plenty of familiar faces here, they just hope to stay healthy to become a cohesive unit. Seniors Pat Swett and Ryan Clifford saw considerable action in 1999 but sat out all but one game of the 2000 season with injuries. Senior Al Gates was the team's fifth-leading tackler in 2000 despite missing three games. Senior Kyle Kostanski intercepted two passes in the two games he played last year, while junior Aaron Ragland saw action in six games. Junior Jason Olivari was able to stay injury free in 2000 when he led the team with four interceptions and 11 pass breakups.

SPECIALTY TEAMS

The kicking game concerns the coaching staff with the departure of All Conference and All New England punter John Frasco, who also handled the placekicking. Taking snaps at punter are Tim Corr, Doug Kaczmarcyzk and Matt Yvon, while Ryan Clifford and P.J. Lorentzen have been placekicking. Kick and punt returners are David Eaton and Don Jones.



Westfield State football captains, left to right, are: David Eaton, Tim Corr, and P.J. Lorentzen.

Photo By Mickey Curtis

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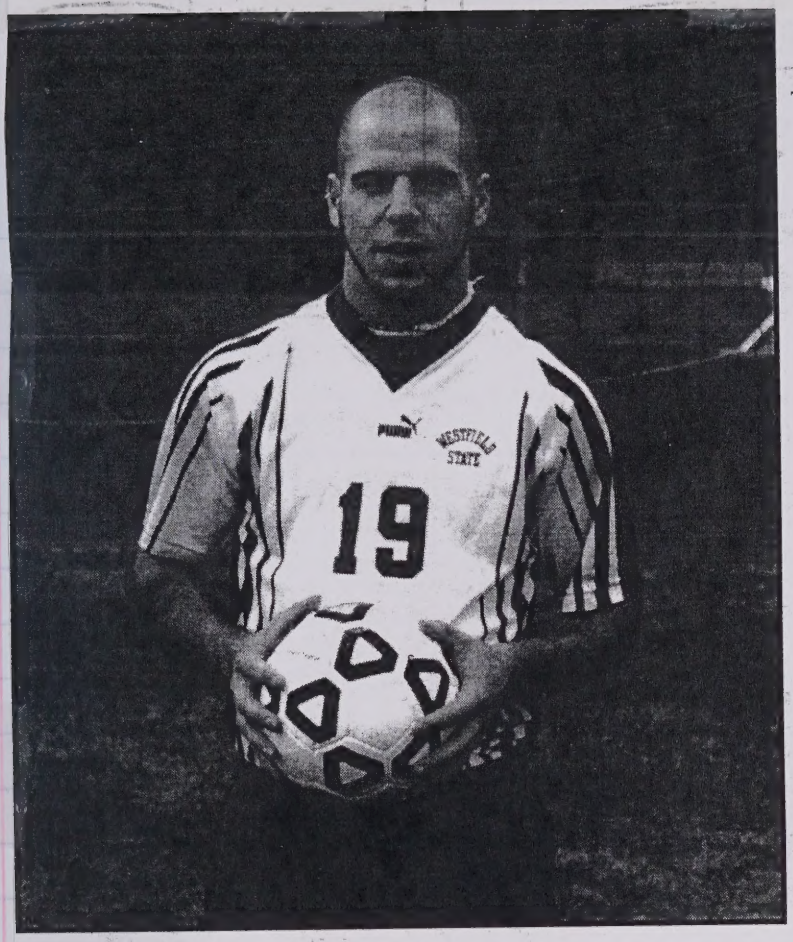

Sophomore back Jon Witowski of Ludlow was named to the Mass. State Conference weekly honor roll for scoring the eventual game-winning goal in the men's soccer team's 2-1 victory over Springfield College.

File Photo By Mickey Curtis

Senior setter Sarah Cormier was named to the All-Tournament team at the Coast Guard Volleyball Invitational and also selected to the Mass. State Conference weekly honor roll.

File Photo By Mickey Curtis

Sophomores Lead Men's Soccer Team

Sept. 2001

Men's Soccer 2 - Springfield 1

WESTFIELD - Sophomores Peter Fager (West Springfield) and Jon Witowski (Ludlow) scored first-half goals to lead the Westfield State College men's soccer team to its first victory of the season, a 2-1 decision over Springfield College at Alumni Field.

Assisting on the goals were Garrett O'Connell and Matthew Goncalves. Springfield scored one minute into the second half.

Westfield senior goal D.J Conway made seven saves.

Williams 7 - Westfield State 0

WILLIAMSTOWN - The Williams College men's soccer tear rolled to a 7-0 victory over Westfiel State in its home opener on Wednes day, Sept. 12.

Williams - which defeated Di vision I Dartmouth, 4-0, in its sea son opener - extended its regula season unbeaten streak to 40 game (39-0-1).

The Ephs dominated from th outset, and scored their first goal o a penalty kick 13 minutes into th game. They led at halftime 2-0 anc tallied another goal early in the second half. The Owls managed to keep the Eph attack in check until the 69th minute when Williams erupted for three goals in a span of one minute and 11 seconds.

Westfield, 1-2, plays at Eastern Connecticut Monday, Sept. 17.

Owls Finish Third At Volleyball Invite

NEW LONDON, Conn. - Westfield State took third place with a 1-2 record in the Coast Guard Invitational.

The Owls defeated Rhode Island College 30-27, 30-24, 26-30, 30-20. They lost to Tufts 30-7, 30-22, 30-10, and to Coast Guard 31-29, 30-17, 30-23.

Tufts captured the invite by winning all three matches in the round robin tournament. Westfield senior setter Sarah Cormier was named to the all tournament team.

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Football Rallies Past Rival WNEC

WESTFIELD, Mass. - Senior Shawn Lyman of West Springfield rushed for 112 yards ond 31 carries and scored two touchdowns, including the game-winning score with 2:58 remaining, to lift Westfield State College to a thrilling 20-13 come-from-behind victory over Western New England College.

The season opener for both New England Football Conference teams was played in front of a crowd estimated at more than 3,000 at a noisy Alumni Field.

Trailing 13-12, the Owls took over on their own 10-yard line with 7:26 remaining and drove 90 yards in 12 plays, capped by a three-yard touchdown run by Lyman. Freshman reserve running back Don Jones of Springfield rushed for 53 yards on six carries during the game-winning drive, and an 18-yard pass to tight end Brian Matuszo (South Deerfield) from quarterback Chris Lapointe (Millers Falls) to the three-yard line set up the game-winning score.

Two outstanding touchdown runs by senior standout Marvin Langley led Western New England to its 13-12 fourth-quarter lead. Langley busted off a 69-yard run midway through the second quarter as the Bears closed to within six, 12-6. The Lewistown, Me., native then ripped off a sensational 84-yard touchdown run late in the third quarter that featured several cutbacks and his outstanding speed. Loren Estabrook's successful PAT gave WNEC the lead.

Langley was contained by Westfield for most of the game, however. He finished with 155 net yards rushing on 12 carries in becoming WNEC's all-time leading rusher with 2,858 yards. WNEC had 201 total offensive yards in the game, with 153 coming on Langley's long TD jaunts, and just five first downs.

"It was a big victory for us," said Lyman. "We kept hearing all week about Marvin Langley but our defense played well as did our offensive line."

Westfield took a 6-0 lead early in the game on a six-yard run by Lyman. The Owls led 12-0 early in the second quarter when David Eaton's 35-yard touchdown reception capped an 11-play, 96-yard drive.

Lapointe, a sophomore transfer from Central Connecticut State, completed 11 of 27 passes for 147 yards in his debut with Westfield State.

Also playing well in his first college game was junior linebacker Josue Zamora, who was named to the NEFC weekly honor roll as he led the Owls' fierce defensive charge with eight tackles and a sack.

Senior tackle Derek Jeppe posted 10 tackles. Sophomore linebacker Mike Hurteau and sophomore tackle Stevie Faniel both recorded seven tackles. End John Cloutier had six stops, including three for losses and a sack.

Women's Soccer Blanks Elms

Westfield State 6 - Elms 0

WESTFIELD - The Westfield State College women's soccer team won its first game of the season by blanking an undermanned Elms College, 6-0, in the Owls' home opener on Wednesday, Sept. 12.

The Owls struck quickly by scoring two goals in the first six minutes, and led 4-0 at halftime. Junior Janet Bourget of Holden - the Mass.State Conference Player of the Year last season - scored two unassisted goals in the first half.

Also scoring were: senior Joy Flaherty, freshman Katie O'Brien, freshman Jenn Hendry, and sophomore Erin Reim. Westfield outshot the Blazers, 19-1.

Western Conn. 4 - Westfield 0

DANBURY - Westfield State was shut out for the second straight game as it fell to Western Connecticut, 4-0.

Western Connecticut led 1-0 at halftime, then erupted for three goals in a seven-minute span of the second half.

Westfield State was outshot, 20-3.

Field Hockey Edged In OT

RPI 2 - Westfield 1, Overtime

WESTFIELD - Rensselaer (RPI) survived an upset bid by rallying for a 2-1 overtime victory over Westfield State.

Westfield sophomore Renee Gahan scored late in the first half off a penalty corner. RPI tied the score with 20 minutes left in regulation, then clinched the victory on Jessica Butler's goal with 2:56 left in overtime.

RPI improved to 3-0 and Westfield dropped to 0-2. The Owls' home game scheduled for last Tuesday vs. WNEC was cancelled.

Owls' Fourth-Quarter Blitz Stuns Fitchburg

FITCHBURG, Mass. - Senior running back Shawn Lyman rushed for 135 yards on 27 carries as Westfield State rallied from a 15-0 fourth-quarter deficit to defeat Fitchburg State 28-15 in New England Football Conference action.

The Owls improved to 2-0 overall and 1-0 in the Bogan Division of the NEFC with their second consecutive come-from-behind victory. Fitchburg dropped to 1-1 and 0-1.

Westfield's offense - minus starting quarterback Chris Lapointe (bruised hand) - was nearly nonexistent in the opening three quarters. But the Owls began ripping off big chunks of yardage in the fourth quarter spurred by the running of Lyman and freshman back Don Jones, in addition to two touchdown passes from senior quarterback Jesse Phelps.

"This is unreal," said Westfield State head coach Steve Marino after the dramatic victory. "I am just in awe of the kids. They have no quit in them.

"We made a simple blocking adjustment where our fullback took their outside linebacker. Plus, we stayed away from No. 99 (senior end Craig Levesque). And our offensive line did a great job."

With Lyman gaining big chunks of yards around right end, the Owls' capped their first scoring drive on a 31-yard pass from Phelps to senior wide receiver David Eaton. Phelps then threw to sophomore Matt Yvon for the two-point conversion with 12:39 remaining.

Yvon scored Westfield's second touchdown with 8:42 remaining on an excellent pass-run play covering 27 yards down the left sidelines. Ryan Clifford kicked the extra point to tie the score at 15-all.

Westfield took the lead, 21-15, with 5:01 remaining on a 3-yard touchdown run by Jones. On the previous play, the shifty rookie tailback scampered 48 yards down the right side before being knocked out of bounds at the three.

The Owls' hard-hitting defense - which held Fitchburg to minus-3 net yards rushing - got the ball right back on a pass interception by linebacker Mike Hurteau near midfield. Westfield continued to dominate the line of scrimmage and scored on Phelps' 7-yard scamper with 1:21 remaining.

The Falcons led 8-0 at halftime as its defense recorded a safety and freshman standout kicker Ben Langham kicked field goals of 42 and 43 yards, the latter a school record. Fitchburg took what appeared to be an insurmountable 15-0 lead with 1:42 remaining in the third quarter on Sean McGuire's 62-yard touchdown interception return.

The Owls only had negative five yards rushing on 20 carries in the first half, but finished the game with 172 rushing yards on 49 attempts. Their two quarterbacks completed 7 of 20 passes for 162 yards.

Fitchburg was held two 65 net yards in total offense, which included a 41-yard halfback option pass on its first play of the game and a 36-yard rush in the fourth quarter.

Junior middle linebacker Josue Zamora of Hartford, Conn., led the Owls' fierce defensive charge with 15 tackles, including 12 solos, five for losses of 23 yards, and a sack. Hurteau, from Troy, N.Y., posted six tackles, a fumble recovery, and an interception. Junior end John Cloutier of Chicopee registered five tackles, including three for losses.

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Westfield Awarded $5,000 Grant For Sports Nutrition Training

The Westfield State College athletics department has been awarded a $5,000 Division III initiative grant in the area of student-athlete welfare entitled "Sports Nutrition Training for Student-Athletes and Coaches" for the 2001-2002 academic year.

A primary objective of this initiative is for student-athletes to learn healthy eating and hydration habits that will maximize their performances during practices and competitions. Warning signs for eating disorders, use of supplements, and healthy cooking habits also will be presented.

Approximately 350 Westfield State student-athletes and 35 coaches will benefit from the grant.

"We are very elated to receive this grant from the NCAA," said Westfield State College assistant athletics director Nancy Bals, who submitted the grant proposal. "The desired impact is that the student-athlete will feel better and perform better as a result of receiving this information, and the coaches will be informed and will be able to "coach" nutrition to the athletes."

The Westfield State counseling center also is involved with the initiative grant as well as the evaluation process. Arlene Thompson, a registered nutritionist who is already contracted for individual sessions at the Westfield State counseling center, is now able to make presentations to the student-athletes as a result of the grant.

Thompson, who is the nutritionist for the U-Mass Amherst athletic teams, spoke to the Westfield State fall varsity sports teams during their pre-season camps.

"I was very pleased with Arlene's presentations," said Bals. "The student evaluations indicated that they had learned quite a few new things. This is what our NCAA Champs/Life Skills program is all about - educating athletes on and off the field." Sept 2001

A presentation for female athletes participating in winter and spring sports is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 26. Additional workshops include a presentation to male athletes, with an emphasis on nutritional supplements, in November, and healthy eating habits and cooking techniques from a popular chef next semester.

"The NCAA Division III initiative grant program has been established as part of a three-year plan by the Division III Initiatives Task Force, consistent with the Division III strategic plan," said Dan Dutcher, chief of staff for NCAA Divison III. "We were impressed with the level of interest and enthusiasm in the grant program demonstrated by the Division III membership. The selection committee selected Westfield State College's grant from the 56 student-athlete grants submitted."

Dr. Arthur Jackson, vice-president of student affairs; Jacqueline Sheehan, director of the counseling center; and Nancy Bals, assistant athletics director, accept the $5,000 grant from the NCAA to educate student-athletes and coaches in nutrition training.

Photo By Mickey Curtis

Westfield State Fall Sports Report

Sept 2001

Men's Cross Country

NORTH DARTMOUTH - The Westfield State men's cross country team placed 17th in the 22-team U-Mass Darmouth Invitational.

MIT won the meet with 60 points followed by Tufts (62) and Trinity (73).

MIT's Dan Feldman won the 8,040 meters race with a time of 24:43.2. Westfield's top finishers were junior Tom Bousquet of Chicopee (42nd, 26:27.24) and freshman Geoff Churchill (60th, 27:00.22).

Women's Cross Country

NORTH DARTMOUTH - The Westfield State women's cross country team placed 16th in the 22-team U-Mass Dartmouth Invitational.

Brandeis won the meet with 61 points followed by Trinity (86) and Connecticut College (92).

Connecticut College's Maura Danahy took first with a time of 17:25.87 over the 5,000 meter layout. Westfield's top finishers were: freshman Sara Cooons of Lanesboro (80th, 20:16.03), junior Catie Geldert of Otis (89th, 20:28.22) and senior Starr Hockenberry of Southwick (20:33.01).

Women's Volleyball

Westfield Sweeps Tri-Match

WESTFIELD - Westfield State posted straight-set victories over Fitchburg State (30-16, 30-14, 30-15) and Salem State (30-24, 32-30, 30-21) in its Mass. State Conference opening matches.

Junior Katelyn Foley and senior Katie Simlick recorded 20 and 16 blocks, respectively, to lead the Owls to the sweep.

Women's Volleyball

Williams 3 - Westfield 0

WESTFIELD - The Westfield State women's volleyball team lost to a tall and talented Williams College team in straight sets (30-15, 30-21, 30-20).

Williams improved to 7-1 and Westfield State dropped to 4-3.

Junior Katelyn Foley recorded seven kills and 12 digs for Westfield and senior Katie Simlick tallied six kills and 13 digs.

Field Hockey

Plymouth 3 - Westfield State 1

PLYMOUTH, N.H. - Plymouth State College scored three second-half goals to post a 3-1 come-from-behind victory over Westfield.

The victory gives Plymouth a 3-2 overall record and a 2-0 conference mark, while Westfield drops to 1-4 overall and 0-2 in the conference.

Plymouth outshot Westfield, 11-3, in the first half, but the Owls got the only goal of the half as sophomore Theresa Yacovone of East Longmeadow scored at the 18:35 mark. It was Yacovone's fourth goal in the past three games.

Plymouth outshot Westfield, 25-5. Westfield junior goalie Jill Annunciata registered 11 saves.

Field Hockey

So. Maine 2 - Westfield State 1

WESTFIELD - Westfield State dropped its Little East Conference field hockey opener to Southern Maine, 2-1.

Southern Maine's Sasha Ilkovich scored two second-half goals. The game-winning goal came with 16:22 remaining and the second goal was scored four minutes later. Sophomore Theresa Yacovone scored for Westfield with 1:16 left in the game.

Women's Soccer

Keene State 3 - Westfield State 2

WESTFIELD - Keene State survived an upset bid by the Westfield State women's soccer team to edge the Owls, 3-2, in overtime.

Keene, one of the top ranked teams in New England, improved to 6-1. Westfield dropped to 1-4.

Westfield took the early lead on an unassisted breakaway goal by freshman Liz Rosales. Keene tied the score with 35 seconds left in the first half on an unassisted goal by Jessica Williams.

Keene took a 2-1 lead 16 minutes into the second half on a direct kick by Katie Parkinson. Westfield sent the game into OT on a direct kick just inside the left post by Ali Jordan with 6:16 left in regulation.

Keene won the game 12:30 into the first overtime on a goal by Celena Chickering, who received a nice pass from Williams.

Westfield was outshot 9-6 in the well played game.

Men's Soccer

Keene State 3 - Westfield State 0

KEENE, N.H. - Second-half goals by Casey Banks, John Harke and Francisco Vasconcelos and the strong play of goalie D.J. Nordmark lifted Keene State to a 3-0 victory over Westfield State on Sept. 19.

Keene improves to 4-2, while Westfield falls to 1-4.

Both teams had chances to get on the board in the scoreless first half. Nordmark made a diving stop off a shot by Garrett O'Connell minutes into the game. D.J. Conway, who finished with five stops, saved a penalty kick by Mike Monteiro.

A key stop by Nordmark of Joe Calabrese's shot from close range ignited Keene's offense in the second half. A minute after the save, Banks tipped the ball into the left corner of the net.

Men's Soccer

Eastern Conn. 2 - Westfield 0

WILLIMANTIC, Conn. - The Eastern Connecticut men's soccer team limited Westfield State College to 10 shots on goal and senior Geoff Zimmitti and Josh Waller scored their first goals of the season to lift the Warriors to a 2-0 win.

Westfield had four prime opportunities to score but came up empty on each. Eastern goalie Arthur Lubniewski dove to his left with 13 minutes left in the first half to snare of quick shot by Peter Fager, and Steve Jorge hit the crossbar one minute later.

Five minutes into the second half, Jay Chelo hit the left post with a drive and Chris Whalley blasted a **25-yard direct kick just wide of the post with 15 minutes left.**

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Fall Sports Report

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Field Hockey
Westfield 2 - Fitchburg 1

FITCHBURG - Freshman Laura Scott of Mansfield converted a penalty stroke with 9:16 remaining to give Westfield State a thrilling 2-1 road victory at Fitchburg State in Little East Conference field hockey action Sept. 26.

Scott nailed her game-winner in the lower right corner to beat Falcon goalie Angela Buffington.

Fitchburg State led 1-0 at halftime on a goal by Michelle Perreault. Westfield tied the score early in the second half on a goal by sophomore Renee Gahan; Scott was credited with the assist.

The game was a story of two halves as Fitchburg enjoyed a 6-1 advantage in shot in the first half, while Westfield outshot the home team, 8-0 in the second half.

Buffington recorded five saves and was aided by two defensive saves from Carolyn Murphy. Jill Annunciata recorded five saves for Westfield State.

Westfield improved to 3-4 overall and 1-2 in the conference. Fitchburg dropped to 3-6 overall and 0-4 in the conference.

Field Hockey
Westfield 5 - WPI 0

WORCESTER - The Westfield State field hockey team erupted for five second-half goals to record a 5-0 victory over Worcester Polytech.

Senior Teri Phipps opened the scoring for Westfield four minutes into the second half. Also scoring were freshman Laura Scott, sophomore B.J. Dion, senior Nikki Girolamo, and sophomore Theresa Yacovone.

Westfield outshot WPI, 21-0.

Men's Cross Country

WENHAM - The Westfield State men's cross country finished second in the 16-team Gordon Invitational.

Westfield totaled 65 points to trail Lyndon State (40 points).

Junior Tom Bousquet of Chicopee (3rd, 28:02) was Westfield's top finisher, followed by Geoff Churchill (4th, 28:17); Matt Frederick (9th, 29:03); Marco Iannello (16th, 29:45); and Nik Wlodyka (33rd, 30:54).

Lyndon State's Randy Feeley won the meet in 27:10.

Women's Cross Country

WENHAM - The Westfield State women's cross country team finished third in the 21-team Gordon Invitational.

Westfield compiled 130 points to trail Roger Williams (38) and Maine-Farmington (113).

Starr Hockenberry of Southwick was Westfield's top finisher (11th, 21:24). She was followed by: Sara Coon of Laneboro (18th, 21:49); Catie Geldert of Otis (21st, 22:12); Christine Bryne (36th, 22:49); and Alyssa Reid (44th, 23:19).

Women's Volleyball
Westfield 3 - Mass. College 0

WESTFIELD - The Westfield State women's volleyball team remained unbeaten in the Mass. State Conference by sweeping Massachusetts College, 3-0.

Westfield improved to 3-0 in the conference and 6-4 overall. Mass. College is 3-3 overall and 2-1 in the league.

The game scores were: 30-19, 30-12, 30-22. Sophomore Leah Schmidt of West Springfield had 13 digs and five kills for the Owls. Freshman Amy Svatik recorded 11 digs and three aces.

Women's Volleyball Splits

SOUTH HADLEY - The Westfield State women's volleyball team split a tri-match vs. Mt. Holyoke College and Keene State.

Mt. Holyoke defeated the Owls, 3-1, (30-25, 28-30, 30-16, 30-27). Westfield came back to outlast Keene State in four games (30-27, 31-29, 24-30, 30-25). In the other match, Mt. Holyoke edged Keene State, 3-2.

Junior outside hitter Katelyn Foley recorded 22 kills, 30 digs and four aces for Westfield, while sophomore Leah Schmidt had four aces, nine kills and 26 digs.

Women's Soccer
Westfield 2 - Fitchburg 1

WESTFIELD - The Westfield State women's soccer team won its Mass. State Conference opener by defeating Fitchburg State, 2-1.

Westfield's first goal was scored by Justine Crocker, a junior from Springfield Central, off a corner kick from sophomore Ali Jordan of Ware. Junior Janet Bourget scored an unassisted goal to stake the Owls' to a 2-0 halftime lead.

Westfield outshot Fitchburg, 12-4. Fitchburg only had one shot attempt in the second half but the Falcons scored on a breakaway.

Women's Soccer
Brandeis 3 - Westfield State 1

WESTFIELD - The Westfield State College women's soccer team dropped a 3-1 decision to Brandeis University.

Westfield outshot Brandies, 18-8, but managed just one goal, as sophomore Ali Jordan of Ware scored off a direct kick with 13 seconds left in the game.

Brandeis senior keeper Kerry Bronnenkant of Boylston recorded 17 saves, including several spectacular stops.

Freshman Skylar Buchanan tallied a goal and an assist for Brandeis, which led 1-0 at halftime and scored four minutes into the second half.

Men's Soccer
Westfield 2 - Endicott 1

WESTFIELD - Freshman Brian White (Barre/Quabbin Regional) scored with 3:37 left in regulation to lift Westfield State to a 2-1 men's soccer victory over Endicott.

The victory snapped the Owls' three-game losing streak in which they did not score.

White's shot on the right post deflected off the goalie into the net. Assisting on the game-winning goal was David Gadouas of Chicopee.

Sophomore Joe Calabrese of West Springfield gave Westfield an early 1-0 lead on a header off a beautiful cross from freshman Steve Jorge of Ludlow.

Westfield outshot Endicott, 14-6, and limited the visitors to just one shot attempt in the second half.

Men's Soccer Cancelled

SPRINGFIELD - The Westfield State men's soccer game scheduled for Sept. 25, at WNEC was cancelled because of inclement weather.

Lyman, Defense Lead Owls To Victory

OCT. 2001

WESTFIELD, Mass. - Senior Shawn Lyman of West Springfield rushed for a career-high 230 yards on 26 carries and scored three touchdowns to lead Westfield State to a 27-0 New England Football Conference victory over Mass. Maritime Academy on Sept. 22.

The Owls improved to 3-0 overall and 2-0 in the Bogan Divison of the NEFC. Mass Maritime is 1-2 overall and 1-1 in the Bogan Division.

Lyman racked up 183 rushing yards in the first half to stake the Owls to a 21-0 halftime advantage. His first touchdown run - a 12-yard scamper - came with 56 seconds left in the first quarter.

With 11:04 left in the half he capped a 10-play, 71-yard drive with a 13-yard touchdown run.

Lyman's final carry of the game was a two-yard touchdown plunge with 22 seconds left in the third quarter.

The Owls' other touchdown came with 10:36 left in the second quarter on an 18-yard touchdown pass from junior quarterback Jesse Phelps of Greenfield to senior wide receiver David Eaton of East Bridgewater. The touchdown was set up when linebacker Mike Hurteau intercepted a pass that was tipped by Josue Zamora.

The Westfield offense racked up a school-record 428 rushing yards on 64 carries. Freshman tailback Don Jones of Springfield Central rushed for 73 yards on 13 carries, and senior fullback P.J. Lorentzen of Hopkinton rushed for a career-high 64 yards on nine carries.

Westfield State's nationally ranked defense was just as impressive, limiting Mass Maritime to 44 net yards rushing and 65 passing. Entering the game, the Owls were ranking first nationally in passing defense and seventh in total defense.

Mass Maritime senior running back David Burrill - who rushed for a school record 315 yards last week - was held to 48 yards on 19 carries.

Defensive standouts for the Owls included Zamora (12 tackles, three pass deflections) and linebacker Dan Fitzgerald (six tackles, two sacks).

Senior running back Shawn Lyman rushed for a career-best 230 yards in only three quarters of action in the Owls' convincing 27-0 victory over Mass Maritime Academy. After three games, Lyman ranked first in the conference and fifth nationally in rushing yards per game (159.0).

File Photo By Mickey Curtis

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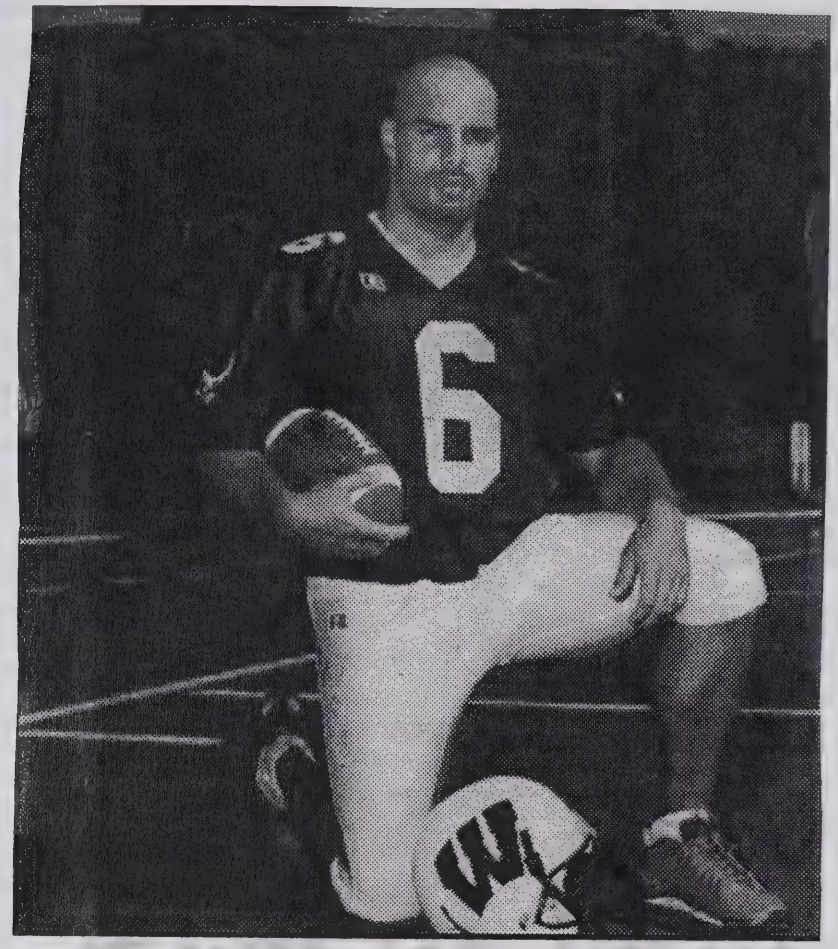

Junior middle linebacker Josue Zamora of Hartford was named the ECAC and New England Football Conference Player of the Week for his outstanding performance in Westfield State's 28-15 victory over Fitchburg State on Sept. 15. Zamora led the conference and ranked fifth nationally in solo tackles with 24 thru the first three games.

Oct. 2001

Varsity Men's Basketball Tryouts
Oct. 15, 10 p.m., Parenzo Gym
Call 572-5509 for questions

All interested students must see the trainers located in Parenzo gym for a physical exam prior to Oct. 15.

Fall Sports Report

Men's Cross Country
Bousquet Leads Owls To 5th

WESTFIELD - Westfield State placed 5th in the James Earley cross country invitational held at Stanley Park on Saturday, Oct. 13.

A total of 23 full teams and 220 runners competed in the men's race. Vassar College won the team title with 57 points followed by Wheaton (83) and Trinity (125).

Junior Tom Bousquet of Chicopee was Westfield's top runner; he finished ninth with a time of 27:17 over the five-mile layout. He was followed by Geoff Churchill (19th, 28:00), Matt Frederick (27th, 28:15), and Marco Iannello (31st, 28:27).

Vassar's Stephen Money placed first with a time of 25:58.

Women's Cross Country

WESTFIELD - The Westfield State finished 14th in the James Earley cross country invitational held at Stanley Park on Saturday, Oct. 13.

A total of 26 teams and 263 women competed in the annual race. Trinity won the team title with 40 points, followed by Coast Guard (108) and Wheaton (127).

Senior Starr Hockenberry of Southwick was Westfield's top runner, finishing 29th in 20:20. She was followed by Catie Geldert (71st, 21:22) and Christine Byrne (91st, 21:45).

Smith College's Sara Lewicke finished first in 18:39.

Women's Volleyball Stays Undefeated In Conference

WORCESTER - The Westfield State women's volleyball team remained undefeated in the Mass. State Conference by sweeping a tri-match on Oct. 13.

The Owls outlasted Framingham State 30-24, 34-32, 30-14, then defeated host Worcester State 30-20, 30-16, 30-16.

Westfield is 9-9 overall and 6-0 in the conference. The Owls have one regular season conference game remaining vs. Bridgewater State, which is also unbeaten in league play.

Senior Sarah Cormier and junior Katelyn Foley played well for the Owls in their sweep of Worcester and Framingham.

Women's Volleyball
Amherst 3 - Westfield State 0

AMHERST - Amherst College swept Westfield State, 30-7, 30-15, 30-16, in nonconference women's volleyball action on Oct. 16.

For Westfield State, senior Katie Simlick had a team-high 10 kills and seven digs. Senior Sarah Cormier contributed nine assists and Leah Schmidt recorded seven digs.

October 22, 2001

Calabrese, Whalley Rally Owls By MCLA

Men's Soccer
Westfield State 2 - Mass. College 1

WESTFIELD - Junior Chris Whalley of Southwick scored off a direct kick to rally Westfield State to a 2-1 overtime men's soccer victory over Massachusetts College.

Whalley's blast from 30 yards was directed high to the right corner. Mass. College's goalie momentarily stopped the shot, but it glanced off his gloves and dropped into the goal.

Massachusetts College took a 1-0 lead in the 63rd minute on an own goal when Westfield's sweeper back misdirected his own header into the goal from 15 yards out. The Owls tied the score with exactly one minute left in regulation on a goal from hard-charging sophomore Joe Calabrese of West Springfield. Assisting on the game-tying tally were Garrett O'Connell and Dave Gadouas of Chicopee.

Westfield and Mass. College are both tied for second place in the Mass. State Conference with 3-1-1 records. Worcester State remains in first place with a 4-0-1 record.. The Owls improved to 6-5-1 overall and are 4-0-1 in their last five games.

Westfield hosts WPI on Tuesday, Oct. 23, at 7:00 p.m.

Men's Soccer
Westfield 1 - Bridgewater State 0

BRIDGEWATER - Freshman Brian White of Barre (Quabbin Regional) scored the game's only goal to lead Westfield State to a 1-0 Mass. State Conference victory over Bridgewater State.

White scored in the 31st minute off a cross from junior Garrett O'Connell. Bridgewater, which outshot Westfield, 10-3, increased the pressure in the second half. With just under seven minutes left in the game, Bridgewater senior midfielder Jason Hanscomb of Agawam hit the right post from 20 yards. But the Owls withstood the run to claim the key road victory.

Goalie D.J. Conway - the Owls' only senior - made six saves before leaving the game in the 86th minute with a hip injury.

Women's Soccer
Westfield 2 - Mass. College 0

NORTH ADAMS - The Westfield State women's soccer team tallied a pair of first-half goals to defeat Massachusetts College.

Westfield finished regular season conference play with a 3-3 record.

Meghan McCann scored the game-winning goal with 17:45 left in the first half; senior co-captain

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Lapointe's Passing Paces Westfield Past Bridgewater

BRIDGEWATER - Westfield State sophomore quarterback Chris Lapointe of Millers Falls threw for four touchdowns and 328 yards - both school records - to lead the Owls to a 27-19 New England Football Conference victory over Bridgewater State onOct. 13.

The victory keeps the Owls undefeated (6-0 overall, 5-0 in the NEFC Bogan Division) and snapped a 13-year losing streak to Bridgewater that dated back to 1988.

Lapointe - who completed 11 of 30 passes and threw two interceptions - wasted no time getting the Owls on the scoreboard, finding Erik Consilvio deep down the middle for a 49-yard scoring toss less than a minute into the game.

Lapointe finished the first half leading Westfield 85 yards in less than a minute before finding Matt Yvon of East Longmeadow (Cathedral High School) on a seven-yard out pattern for a touchdown as time expired for a 13-0 lead at the intermission.

Bridgewater - whose offense sputtered most of the game - tied the score with a pair of spectacular special teams plays by Dave Dungan. Dungan returned a punt 66 yards for a touchdown to make the score 13-7 with 3:21 left in the third quarter.

Then in the middle of the fourth quarter the Owls marched 78 yards in 15 plays only to stall at the Bridgewater two-yard line. Ryan Clifford attempted an 18-yard field goal only to have it blocked up the middle. Dungan scooped up the ball and raced 90 yards untouched for a touchdown. The extra point attempt failed to make the score 13-13 with 9:21 remaining.

Lapointe - a transfer from Central Connecticut State - wasted no time getting back those points. Two plays later he found East Bridgewater native David Eaton down the right sideline for an 80-yard pass-run touchdown. After stopping Bridgewater on the next series, Lapointe this time found Yvon down the right sideline for an 82-yard touchdown to give the Owls a 27-13 lead with 5:45 remaining.

The Bears mustered their only scoring drive of the day after going 69 yards in five plays, with wide receiver Duncan Averill coming down with a 43-yard touchdown pass between two defenders with 2:02 remaining. The Bears never got the ball back as the Owls picked up a first down and ran out the clock.

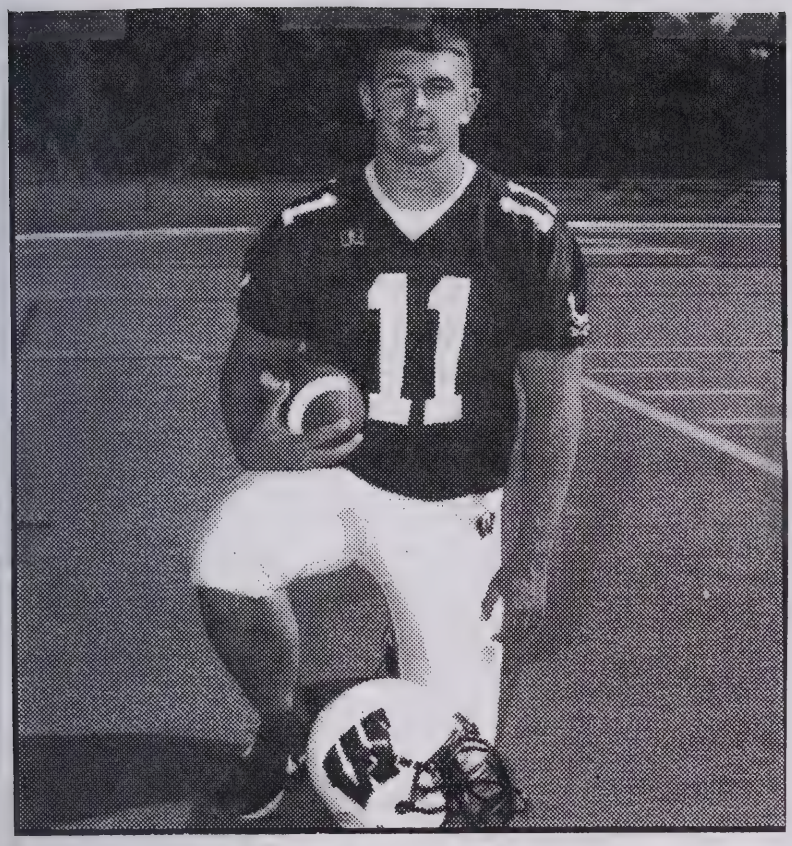
In addition to Lapointe's school passing records, the Owls set a school record for total offensive yards with 533. The Owls rushed for 205 yards, with senior Shawn Lyman of West Springfield carrying the ball 30 times for 161 yards, the exact yardage he was averaging thru five games as the fifth-ranked rusher nationally in NCAA Division III.

Yvon had five catches for 137 yards and two scores, while Eaton caught four passes for 130 yards. Bridgewater was held to 33 net yards rushing on 35 carries against the nation's No. 1 rated defense, but the Bears completed 12 of 33 passes for 222 yards. The Owls did record five quarterback sacks and three interceptions.

Westfield's former school record for passing yards in a game was held by Kevin Wesoloski of South Deerfield, who threw for 310 yards vs. Framingham State in 1991.

Junior middle linebacker Josue Zamora, senior end Tim Corr, and junior end John Cloutier again led the Owls' defensive charge. Zamora registered 12 tackles, including seven solos, and a fumble recovery. Cloutier racked up seven tackles, including four for losses and three sacks. Corr contributed 10 tackles and two sacks.

2001 - 2002



Oct. 2001

Westfield State quarterback Chris Lapointe was named the ECAC Northeast and New England Football Conference offensive player of the week for his record setting performance against Bridgewater State. The sophomore transfer from Central Connectictut State had four touchown passes and 328 passing yards - both school records - in Westfield's 27-19 victory at Bridgewater State.

Sports Notices

- **The Equity in Athletics Disclosure Act (EADA)** of Higher Education Act requires institutions to report data on an annual basis concering their intercollegiate athletics program. Tables 1 through 10 must be made available by Oct. 15 to students, prospective students, and the public. This year's report is now available and contains information for the reporting year beginning 7-1-00 and ending 6-30-01. Copies of this report are available for inspection by the public at the following locations: President Woodward's office (333 Western Ave.), Vice President Arthur Jackson's office (Ely 236), the athletics department (Ely 244), and the Ely College Library. Nancy Bals, assistant athletics director, is also available to answer questions regarding this report.

- **The first home ice hockey game** is Saturday, Nov. 3, at 6:00 p.m. vs. Lehigh, Pa., University. Tickets are $3 for students (with college ID) or $10 season pass. Contact coach Brian Ward at 568-5865.

- **The Westfield Public Schools athletics department** is seeking candidates for coaching positions in the following sports: head swimming, assistant swimming, assistant skiing, assistant boys' basketball, and freshman boys' basketball. Contact 572-6484 for additional information.

Unbeaten Owls Gain Recognition; Gear For Nov. 3 Showdown

The Westfield State College football team is making a name for itself on the regional and national levels this season.

The Owls of 12th year head coach Steve Marino are off to their best start ever with a 6-0 record heading into their Alumni Weekend game vs. Mount Ida College this past weekend. The gridders have set numerous school records this season in marching to the undefeated record, which includes their first victory over conference rival Bridgewater State in 13 years.

Westfield is ranked third in the latest New England Division 3 poll, trailing only Worcester State College and Western Connecticut State. The biggest game in the 20-year history of the program will take place on Nov. 3 when the Owls host Worcester State, which is ranked 21st in the nation.

Westfield State and Worcester State own 5-0 records in the Bogan Division of the New England Football Conference, and the winner of the game will advance to the NEFC championship game on Nov. 10. The winner of the NEFC championship receives an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament.

Individual standouts for the Owls include senior running back Shawn Lyman, who ranks third nationally in rushing yards per game (161.0), and sophomore quarterback Chris Lapointe, who was named conference player of the week in the big 27-19 win at Bridgewater when he set school records with four touchdown passes and 328 yards passing.

Junior linebacker Josue Zamora leads the stingy Westfield defense that is ranked nationally in the following categories: total defense (2nd); passing defense (3rd); rushing defense (13th); and scoring defense (14th).

2001-2002

Ice Hockey Team Faces Challenging Season

Oct 2001

By Brian Ward

The 2001-2002 Westfield State Hockey program is about to undergo a very transitional period this season as the College will be announcing its possible return to the ECAC. The 2001-2002 season looks to be very challenging, and the team will be skating its second season at the recently built Amelia Park Ice Arena.

With a much deeper team since its re-emergence in 1997, the Owls are looking to move forward and maintain a winning tradition. Last season, the Owls tallied a 16-6-2 record, while boasting a road record of 9-2-1. Coach Brian Ward will have 15 returning players along with 10 newcomers.

The big task will be replacing the leadership of last season's team captain, Matt Fontaine, along with co-captains Brian Huggon and Steve Mortarelli. The Owls return several of their leading scorers from last season, including its team leader, sophomore Ryan Lawless. Sophomore forwards Mike Palazzola and Bobby Shaw along with defensemen Keven Pelkey and Keith Nadeau will be returning with their combined 92 points from last season. Palazzola had a team-leading 14 goals and Shaw a team-leading seven powerplay goals and four game-winning goals.

Fifth-year senior and elected team captain Mike Fitzgerald brings back his scoring punch (26 points last year) and his leadership this season. Joining Fitzgerald will be junior assistant captain Brian Donnelly. Donnelly will be playing defense this season and will be looked to for his leadership and experience. Sophomore Keven Pelkey will join Donnelly as co-assistant captain on the blueline.

Also returning at forward will be sophomores James Carapella, Ken Hetzel, Steve Savage, and Brad Kent. All were significant contributors last season. Junior Matt Merriam will be competing for more time this year at both forward and defense.

Also joining the strong sophomore class will be defensemen Mark Carrasquillo, Keith Nadeau and Mike Nee. Carrasquillo was awarded the team's Most Improved Player last year, while Nadeau and Pelkey anchored the team's blueline. Nee gained significant experience last season and will be contributing more this season.

Sophomore goaltender Ardian Kalezic is coming off a very impressive freshman season. Kalezic boasted an impressive 13-5-2 record last season, while carrying a 2.95 goals against average. He started 20 games last season with a .904 saves percentage. His talents and experience will be the focal point of a very strong defense.

"We will be playing to our strengths this season. Strong defense and goaltending, along with good team speed, will be our focal point. We are playing a much tougher schedule this season and we will need our strong nucleus of returning players to be leading the way with help from our 10 newcomers. This season will be an excellent test for us," said Ward.

The Newcomers

The 2001-2002 newcomers will make an immediate impact. The Owls welcome six forwards, three defensemen and a goaltender. Freshmen forwards Alan Donnelly (Natick) and Bill Colella (Melrose) lead the way. Both bring size, speed and talent to the offense.

Joining them up front will be Matt Connell (Marian), Mark McGuire (Bridgewater Raynham) and Bryan Teixeira (Springfield Junior Olympics). McGuire and Connell possess speed and scoring ability, while Teixeira brings some much needed size.

Joining the blueline this year will be freshmen standout Matt Stone (Natick). Stone has a large frame and excellent mobility and will be asked to contribute immediately to the already strong defense. Also new to the lineup will be Shawn Brown (Bridgewater Raynham) and Justin Nevins (Silver Lake).

Rounding out the freshmen will be goaltender Dustin Durej (U-Mass Juniors). A transfer student, Durej will be competing with Kalezic between the pipes. With excellent potential, Durej will give Coach Ward a very solid one-two punch.

The roster is very much improved from last season and should pay great dividends. With much added speed, size and scoring, the 2001-2002 Owl Hockey Team will be looking to provide more offensive punch this season and a strong defense.

"I am very happy with the recruited freshmen we brought in the season. We have several options on offense this season. That should not only put pressure on our opponents more, but should also help our defense," said Ward.

Westfield State Ice Hockey 2001-2002 Schedule

Day		Opponent	Time
		October	
Fri.	26	at Siena College	7:00
		November	
Sat.	**3**	**Lehigh University**	**5:30**
Wed.	**7**	**Framingham State**	**7:00**
Sat.	**10**	**So. New Hampshire**	**5:30**
Wed.	14	at Harvard JV	7:00
Wed.	28	at Franklin Pierce	7:30
		December	
Tue.	4	at Suffolk University	7:00
Sat.	8	at Plymouth State	4:00
Wed.	**12**	**Harvard JV**	**7:00**
		January	
Sat.	5	at U. of Rhode Island	6:00
Tue.	8	at WNEC	7:30
Wed.	**9**	**Worcester State**	**7:00**
Sat.	12	at UMass Dartmouth	5:00
Sat.	19	at Central Connecticut	8:00
Wed.	**23**	**Plymouth State**	**7:00**
Sat.	26	at U.S. Naval Academy	7:00
Sun.	27	at Lehigh University	4:00
Wed.	**30**	**Central Connecticut**	**7:00**
		February	
Sun.	3	at Mohawk Valley College	2:00
Fri.	8	at University of Delaware	7:00
Sat.	9	at Drexel University	7:00
Sat.	**16**	**Nichols College**	**5:30**
Wed.	**20**	**Assumption College**	**7:00**
Sat.	**23**	**Siena College**	**5:30**

Contact 413-568-2503 for ticket info.

2001-2002

Westfield State junior midfielder Chris Whalley was named the Mass. State Conference Player of the Week as he scored the game-winning goal in a 2-1 come-from-behind men's soccer victory over Mass. College. The streaking Owls - who only have one senior on their team - are unbeaten in their last seven games and begin postseason tournament play Wednesday, Oct. 31. *File Photo By Mickey Curtis*

OCT. 2001

Soccer Roundup

Men's Soccer
Westfield State 3 - WPI 1

Sophomore Joe Calabrese of West Springfield tallied two goals to lead the Westfield State men's soccer team to a 3-1 win over WPI.

Westfield took a 1-0 lead on an own goal 17 minutes into the game. Calabrese scored four minutes later with an assist from junior co-captain Garrett O'Connell.

WPI trimmed the deficit to 2-1 with 35 minutes left in the game. Calabrese added an insurance tally 11 minutes later.

Freshman goalie Brian Ginisi made nine saves for the Owls, including several spectacular stops.

Women's Soccer
Framingham 1 - Westfield 0

Framingham State survived an upset bid as it defeated Westfield State, 1-0, in the semifinals of the Mass. State Conference women's soccer postseason tournament.

Westfield, the No. 4 seed, played on even terms with the Rams throughout most of the game. The Owls had several scoring opportunities, including a shot off the post by Meghan McCann.

Framingham scored the only goal in the 67th minute .

The Owls, who sustained numerous injuries throughout the season, finished with a 5-10-1 record.

2001-2002

Owls Handle Mt. Ida To Stay Unbeaten

OCT. 2001

WESTFIELD - Senior Shawn Lyman (West Springfield) rushed for 121 yards and two touchdowns and sophomore quarterback Chris Lapointe (Millers Falls) completed 12 of 22 passes for 136 yards and two touchdowns to lead the undefeated Westfield State football team to a 28-6 victory over Mount Ida.

The Owls are now 7-0 while Mount Ida dropped to 1-5 following the nonconference matchup.

Westfield jumped out to a commanding 28-0 halftime lead during its Alumni Weekend game. The Owls ran 54 plays for 300 total yards and racked up 20 first downs in the first two quarters.

The Owls took the opening kickoff and marched 55 yards in 13 plays, with Lyman - ranked third nationally in rushing - scoring from four yards out. Lyman's two-yard touchdown run with 3:01 left in the first half capped an 11-play, 62 yard drive.

Lapointe threw an eight-yard touchdown pass to junior tight end Kevin Vaughn of Chicopee to complete an 11-play, 80-yard scoring drive early in the second quarter. Westfield scored with 12 seconds remaining in the half when Lapointe rifled a 17-yard scoring toss to sophomore receiver Matt Yvon of East Longmeadow.

Yvon sat out the second half but finished with five receptions for 58 yards. Lapointe only played one series in the second half before giving way to reserve quarterbacks Jesse Phelps and Bob Arnett. Lyman had 30 carries, 23 in the first half, as the Owls substituted freely in the final two quarters.

Mount Ida's main offensive threat was freshman tailback Mark Rocker (Middleton), who finished with 80 yards rushing on 19 carries. The Mustangs took advantage of Westfield's only turnover to score late in the game on a 30-yard pass from from backup quarterback Derek McClaren to Leigh Putnam.

Defensive standouts for the Owls included: linebacker Mike Hurteau (8 tackles); Ryan Clifford (5 tackles, 1 interception, 3 pass breakups); tackle Stevie Faniel (4 tackles, 1 1/2 sacks); and end John Cloutier (6 tackles, 1 1/2 sacks).

The State Game

Worcester State
at Westfield State
Saturday, Nov. 3, 12:00
NEFC Bogan Division
Championship Game

October 29, 2001

Cross Country Places Second In Conference

FITCHBURG - The Westfield State men's cross country team finished second in the Mass. State Conference cross country championships held at Fitchurg State.

Bridgewater won the seven-team meet with 37 points. Westfield and Fitchburg tied for second with 54 points apiece.

All conference performers for the Owls were freshman Geoff Churchill, who finished fourth in 25:27, and senior Marco Iannello, who placed seventh in 25:37.

Junior Tom Bousquet of Chicopee - Westfield's No. 1 runner the entire season - had an off day because of a respiratory infection and struggled to finish fifth for the Owls and 18th overall in 26:45. The Owls would have won the team title by a point if Bousquet - the pre-race favorite - had finished first.

Also earning points for Westfield were freshman Matt Frederick (10th, 25:47) and sophomore Nik Wlodyka (15th, 26:23).

Bridgewater took three of the top five spots led by individual champion Ryan Morin (24:59).

Women's Cross Country

FITCHBURG - Westfield State's string of five straight conference titles was snapped as it placed second in the Mass. State women's country championships.

Bridgewater placed first with 28 points followed by Westfield (52), and Fitchburg (73).

Westfield senior Starr Hockenberry finished third with a time of 21:24. Other top finishers were: Catie Geldert (8th, 22;27), Christine Byrne (9th, 22;28), Alyssa Reid (18th, 23:19), Jen Stryer (21st, 23:47), Bonnie Starsiak (22nd, 23:57), KellyRose O'Brien (23rd, 24:00), and Aimee Worcester (24th, 24:16).

Field Hockey
So. Maine 2 - Westfield 0

GORHAM, Me. - Senior forward Laura Jurkowski of East Longmeadow, Mass., scored the game-winning goal late in the first half, and the University of Southern Maine held off a strong rally by Westfield State to post a 2-0 victory in the quarterfinals of the Little East Conference field hockey tournament on Tuesday, Oct. 23.

The Owls controlled play in the second half and had their best opportunity to even the game when senior forward Teri Phipps intercepted a clearing pass and fired a shot to the far side from close range with 20 minutes remaining. Sophomore goalie Jessie Superchi flashed out her right pad to kick the ball away. Southern Maine added an insurance goal with 14 seconds left.

With the loss, Westfield concludes its season with an 8-8 record.

Women's Volleyball

Bridgewater State continued its dominance of Mass. State Conference opponents by sweeping Westfield State (30-17, 30-21, 30-19) on Tuesday, Oct. 23.

The victory gave the Bears a perfect 7-0 record in the MASCAC as they won their seventh straight conference crown. Westfield placed second in the conference with a 6-1 record. The Owls will host a first-round game in the conference's postseason tournament on Wednesday, Oct. 31.

The Bears, 23-5 overall, were once again led by senior captain and reigning Conference Player of the Year Jennifer Cedrone of Walpole, who registered 14 kills and 16 digs.

2001 - 2002

Men's Soccer Quietly Keeps Winning

By Mickey Curtis, SID

There is a Westfield State varsity sports team that has quietly compiled an unbeaten streak of its own.

While the Owls' football team has created quite a stir by running off a school-record eight straight victories in its first eight games, the Westfield State men's soccer team has recovered from from a subpar 2-5 start to go unbeaten in its last nine games.

Westfield State improved to 10-5-1 as sophomore Joe Calabrese of West Springfield and junior Chris Whalley of Southwick scored to lead the streaking Owls to a 2-0 victory over Mass. College in the semifinals of the Mass. State Conference postseason men's soccer tournament on Oct. 31.

The Owls will play Worcester State at Worcester this Saturday evening in a rematch of last year's championship game. Worcester edged Bridgewater, 1-0, in Wednesday's other semifinal matchup. The starting time for the championship game is 6:00 p.m.

Since losing to Worcester State, 1-0, on Sept. 28, the Owls have posted an 8-0-1 record. A solid defense and an ever improving offense have keyed the second-half surge. The Owls have outscored the opposition 24-5 in the past nine games. Conversely, in the first seven games, Westfield was outscored 18-6.

"I'm very proud of the way the team has responded," said fifth-year coach Paul Whalley. "They've worked hard to get to this point. We were a young team that was struggling to find itself as the start of the season, especially playing such a tough nonconference schedule, but their hard work and unselfishness have paid off."

A chief reason it took the Owls a while to get untracked is because they lost their top three scorers from their NCAA Tournament team of a year ago, including third team All American Karl Labadorf, who now serves as Whalley's assistant coach.

But a number of players have picked up the scoring slack, including Calabrese and Whalley, who are tied for the team lead in scoring with 19 points apiece.

In Wednesday's game vs. Mass. College, Whalley assisted on the first goal along with junior Dave Gadouas of Chicopee. Calabrese, the team's leading scorer, put in the goal off the left post from 15 yards out with 2:25 left in the first half. Freshman Steve Jorge of Ludlow assisted on the second goal, a header by Whalley.

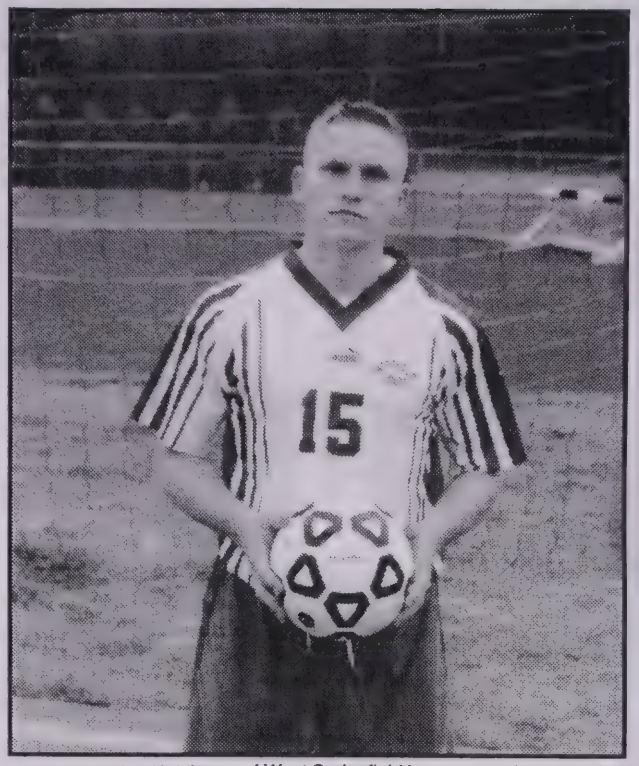
The Owls earned the right to host Mass. College in the postseason tournament with a clutch come-from-behind victory over their Western Mass. rivals on Oct. 16. Trailing 1-0, Calabrese scored with a minute left in regulation, then Whalley scored off a direct kick to give the Owls a dramatic 2-1 overtime victory to secure second place in the conference.

Sixteen of Westfield's 25 players roster hail from the Western Mass. area, including five from soccer hotbed Ludlow. Making key contributions off the bench has been freshman defender Keith Richards, a former standout at Westfield High School.

"I know it's a well used cliché, but it's been a total team effort," said Whalley. "A lot of guys have been playing really well for us over the past five or six weeks."

Unlike this season, the Owls won't be able to sneak up on anybody next year, as they only lose one player to graduation - senior goalie D.J. Conway of Springfield.

"The team has shown me a lot of character, especially after our 2-5 record," said Whalley. "And I'm confident the team will respond well to the different set of challenges it will be faced with next season."



Sophomore Joe Calabrese of West Springfield has emerged as a scoring threat for the Westfield State men's soccer team this season. Calabrese had a team-high eight goals heading into last Saturday's conference championship game at Worcester State. *File Photo By Mickey Curtis*

Nov. 2001

Owls Edge Nichols To Remain Perfect

DUDLEY, Mass. - The dream season continues for the Westfield State College football team.

Sophomore quarterback Chris Lapointe (Millers Falls) completed 12-of-29 passes for 165 yards and one touchdown, a 14-yard strike to sophomore Matt Yvon (E. Longmeadow) in the fourth quarter, as Westfield State (8-0, 5-0 Bogan Division) recorded its school-record eighth win of the season, 14-7, over Nichols College (5-3, 4-0 Boyd Division).

The big nondivisional road victory by the Owls set up a winner-take-all showdown against Worcester State (9-0, 5-0 Bogan) Nov. 3 in Westfield, with the winner facing Nichols College in the NEFC Championship game on Nov. 10.

Nichols advanced to the championship game as UMass Dartmouth defeated Salve Regina, 19-16.

"We did a great job today," said veteran Westfield State head coach Steve Marino. "A lot of people weren't sure how good we were, but I think we proved today that we can play with the best teams. But we've still got a lot of work to do and we have a tough game ahead of us."

After a slow start, the Owls got on the board first with 11:19 left in the second quarter as senior running back Shawn Lyman (West Springfield, MA) sprinted 13 yards up the middle of the defense to give Westfield a 7-0 lead. Lyman - ranked third nationally in rushing - ran for 83 yards on the day on 25 carries. The seven-play touchdown drive covered 57 yards.

"Our defense (ranked first nationally in total defense) played a good game once again and our offense came around," said Marino. "Chris (Lapointe) struggled at the start but he picked it up in the second half. This was really his first big game."

The Bison managed to tie the game at 7-7 late in the half as senior quarterback Jarrod Rouanzoin (Arvada, Colorado) ran for a five-yard touchdown with 20 seconds remaining. The drive was kept alive twice by crucial Owl penalties inside the red zone.

After a scoreless third quarter, Westfield put together an impressive 14-play, 95-yard drive that was capped off by the Yvon TD reception on a slant pattern in the middle of the endzone.

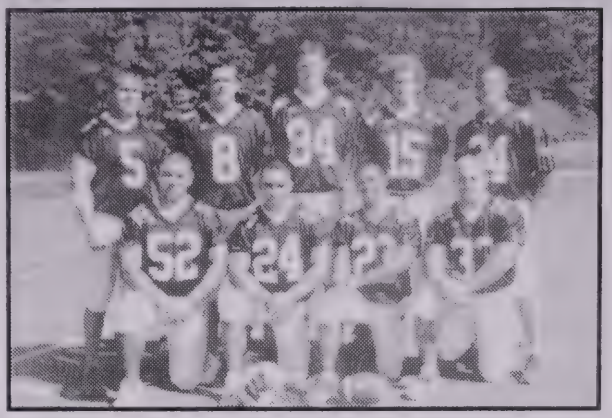
Yvon finished with six receptions for 81 yards, including three catches on the game-winning drive.

"It's kind of a pick play that we practice all week," said Yvon. "We use it quite a bit in games; it's a timing pattern and Chris just got me the ball."

"We knew we had to get the ball to Matt," said Marino. "He's our top receiver and we finally got him the ball in the second half. But there were some other big catches in that touchdown drive by Kevin Vaughn and Erik Consilvio."

Vaughn, a junior tight end from Chicopee Comp, made a spectacular shoestring catch on third down early in the drive. The 17-yard reception got the Owls out of a deep hole at their own five-yard line. Later in the drive, Lapointe completed a 35-yard pass to sophomore receiver Erik Consilvio on a third-and-21 situation.

The defense took over after the score, limiting Nichols to only 24 yards over the last three drives. Junior linebacker Josue Zamora (Hartford, Conn.) led all players with 13 tackles. Junior end John Cloutier of Chicopee also had a stellar game with five tackles, including three for losses.



Westfield State College senior football players, first row, left to right, are: George Emanuel, Shawn Lyman, Alan Gates, P.J. Lorentzen. Second row:. Derek Jeppe, David Eaton, Tim Corr, Pat Swett, Kyle Kostanski.

New England Regional Cross Country Championships - Saturday, Nov. 10 at Stanley Park
Women's Race - 11:00
Men's Race - 12:00

2001-2002

Volleyball Advances In Tourney

Women's Volleyball
Westfield 3 - Fitchburg State 0

WESTFIELD - The Westfield State women's volleyball team defeated Fichburg State, 3-0 (30-23, 30-22, 30-16) in the quarterfinals of the Mass. State Conference postseason tournament on Oct. 31.

Westfield, 11-14 overall, played Framingham State in the conference tournament semifinals.

Senior Katie Simlick of Enfield, Conn., recorded 11 kills for the Owls. Senior Sarah Cormier of Lowell contributed 17 assists and four blocks.

Women's Volleyball
Eastern Conn. 3 – Westfield 1

WESTFIELD – Eastern Connecticut State rallied to defeat Westfield State, 3-1, on Oct. 27.

Westfield took the first game, 30-28, then Eastern Connecticut swept the final three games: 30-23, 30-17, 30-23.

Seniors Sarah Cormier (20 assists) and Katie Simlick (11 kills, six digs) once again led the Owls. Junior setter Kate Edwards of Montague had 33 assists, seven kills, eight digs and three service aces for Eastern Connecticut (20-10), which reached the 20-win plateau for the 20th time in 22 years.

Women's Swimming
Simmons 162 – Westfield 136

BOSTON – The Westfield State women's swimming and diving team lost its season opener to Simmons, 162-136, Oct. 27.

Double winners were Dana LedDuke (*50 butterfly, 100 butterfly*) and Jen Gilbert (50 backstroke, 50 breaststroke). Kim MacKenzie won the 100 breaststroke.

Men's Cross Country

NORTH DARTMOUTH – The Westfield State men's cross country team finished sixth in the New England Alliance championships held Oct. 27.

Competing without its No. 1 runner Tom Bousquet of Chicopee, who was sidelined with bronchitis, Westfield finished with 131 points to trail Eastern Connecticut (127), Fitchburg (122), Bridgewater (118), U-Mass Dartmouth (61), and Keene State (20).

Keene, with an all underclassmen lineup, dominated the 10-team competition by taking the first four places. Mark Miller won the 8,045 meter race in 24:00.19.

Westfield freshman Geoff Churchill finished 14th (26:35.86), followed by freshman Matt Frederick (21st, 27:02.1), senior Marco Iannello (22nd, 27:04.85), freshman Stephen Cole (33rd, 27:59.14), and sophomore Andy Barron (28:10.78).

Women's Cross Country

NORTH DARTMOUTH – The Westfield State women's cross country team placed fifth in the New England Alliance championships held Oct. 27.

Keene State finished first in the 9-team competition with 31 points followed by So. Maine (41), Bridgewater (84), Mass Dartmouth (107), and Westfield (138).

Senior Starr Hockenberry of Southwick was Westfield's top runner, finishing 13th in 19:50.50. She was followed by junior Catie Geldert of Otis (21st, 20:26.54), Christine Byrne (31st, 21:00.64), Alyssa Reid (35th, 21:15.10), and KellyRose O'Brien (38th, 21:46.94).

Owls Edge Worcester In Thriller, 34-30

By Mickey Curtis, SID

WESTFIELD, Mass. - Sophomore Matt Yvon of East Longmeadow had 13 catches for 215 yards - both school records - and caught three touchdown passes, including the game-winner with 59 seconds remaining, to rally Westfield State to a thrilling 34-30 victory over Worcester State in a battle of undefeated New England Football Conference teams.

Westfield (9-0 overall, 6-0 NEFC Bogan Division) advanced to the NEFC championship game, where it faced Boyd Divison champion Nichols College. The championship game was held Saturday, Nov. 10, at Worcester State College at 1:00 p.m. Westfield defeated Nichols College, 14-7, in a cross divisional matchup on Oct. 27.

The winner of the NEFC title game will receive an automatic berth into the NCAA Division III Tournament, which begins Nov. 17. Worcester State, 9-1, is awaiting a possible ECAC playoff berth.

"I love these kids, they are unbelievable," said Westfield State head coach Steve Marino. "We made some huge mistakes but we kept battling back. And we got some great performances from Matt Yvon, and defensively from Tim Corr and Josue Zamora."

The Owls started their game-winning 7-play, 62-yard touchdown drive with 2:31 remaining. On third down from the six-yard line, sophomore quarterback Chris Lapointe (17-for 36, 285 yards) hooked up with Yvon on their favorite play - a slant pattern - for the game-winning score.

"We worked all week on that play," said Yvon. "I was confident I could get open today because they had the linebackers covering me in the flats."

"Worcester State tried to play our receivers with their linebackers and it gave us some freedom," said Marino.

The game-winning score set up a frantic finish. Worcester returned the kickoff to the Westfield 47, then standout quarterback Cean Oksanish completed a 14-yard pass on fourth down to Jeremy Frisch to place the ball at the Westfield 26 with eight seconds remaining.

Oksanish threw an incomplete pass that was batted down in the middle of the end zone by Westfield defensive back Alan Gates with two seconds remaining. On the game's final play, Oksanish could not find any open receivers and ran upfield with the ball. He picked up 21 yards before being tackled by several Westfield defenders at the five-yard line.

"This was a great game and the biggest game we've ever had," understated Marino.

The lead changed three times throughout the emotion-packed game that was played in front of a boisterous crowd of more than 3,000. Trailing 7-0, Worcester State took a 19-7 lead late in the first half. Oksanish threw touchdown passes covering 17 yards to Frisch and 47 yards to Pat Arnold, and Hampton Clarkson scored on a three-yard run.

Oksanish, a sophomore from Grafton, completed 13 of 24 passes for 264 yards and two touchdowns. He now has 31 touchdown passes this season, a New England Division III record.

Westfield took a 27-19 lead early in the third quarter on touchdown runs of 53 and five yards by Shawn Lyman. The senior standout from West Springfield - ranked fifth nationally - finished with 125 yards on 23 carries.

Yvon had touchdown receptions in the first half covering 10 and 31 yards. He now has 10 TD catches this season, a new school record. Holding the previous marks for catches and receiving yards in a game, and receiving touchdowns in a season was Greenfield native Tim Peters.

Worcester State tied the score at 27-27 with 2:21 left in the third quarter on a spectacular 69-yard punt return down the left sideline by Frisch. Oksanish kicked a 26-yard field goal to give the Lancers a 30-27 lead wih 11:52 left in the game.

"Our defense stood up, and they shut them down in the second half," said Marino. "They had 19 points at halftime and they scored their only touchdown in the second half on a punt return and a field goal."

Senior end Tim Corr and junior middle linebacker Josue Zamora led the defensive charge. Zamora created havoc the entire game with 10 tackles (five solos), a blocked punt, two blocked point after touchdowns, and an interception.

Corr was in the Worcester offensive backfield for most of the game. He recorded 10 tackles, including four for losses totaling 37 yards, two sacks, a forced fumble, and a pass deflection. In addition, Corr punted 10 times for a 35.7 average.

Also playing well was junior back Ryan Clifford, who posted a team-high 13 tackles, including 10 solos. Clifford also was 4-for-4 in point after touchdown kicks.

"I wasn't leaving anything on the field," said Corr. "I didn't want this game to be the last one."

2001-2002

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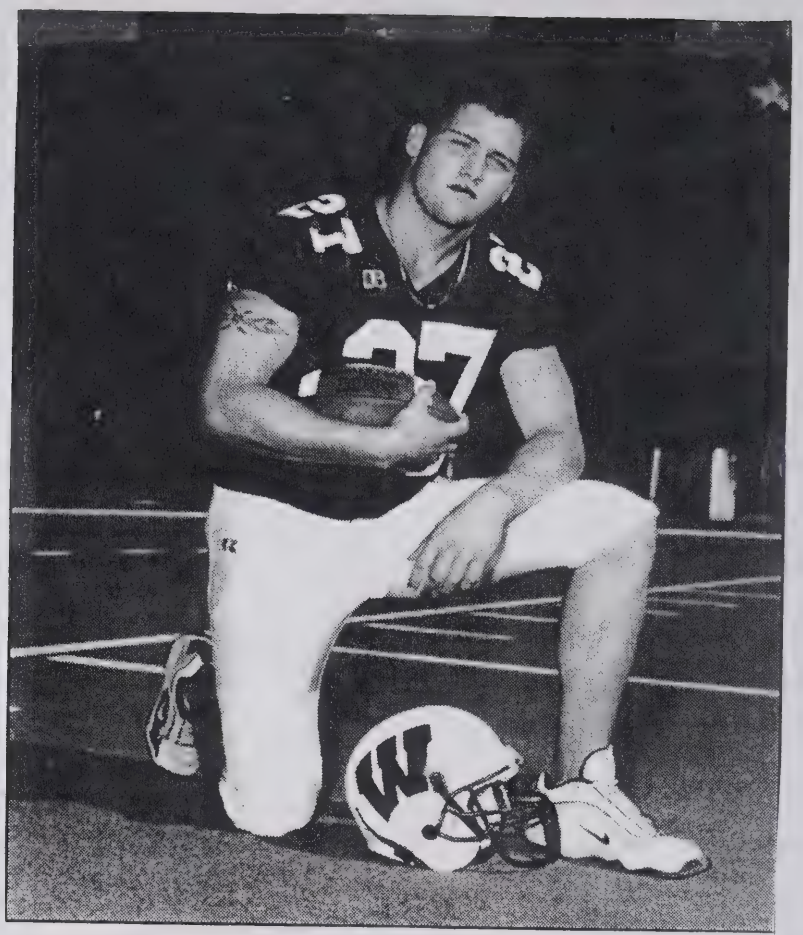


Nov. 2001

Sophomore Matt Yvon was named ECAC New England and NEFC Offensive Player of the week for his school-recordsetting peformances (13 catches, 215 yards) vs. Worcester State.

Head football coach Steve Marino gives his players a big hand after their thrilling 34-30 victory over Worcester State College on Nov. 3. *Photo By David Harris-Fried*

2001-2002

Men's Soccer Wins ECAC Opener

WESTFIELD - Junior Chris Whalley of Southwick tallied a goal and two assists to lead Westfield State to a 3-1 victory over local rival Western New England College in the quarterfinals of the ECAC Division III New England men's soccer tournament on Wednesday, Nov. 7.

The Owls, seeded second in the eight-team tournament, improved to 11-6-1. WNEC, seeded seventh, finished with a 14-8-1 record.

The Owls hosted Babson in a semifinal game on Saturday, Nov. 10, at 1:00 p.m. Babson advanced with a 1-0 victory over U-Mass Darmouth. In the other semifinal, top seeded Plymouth will host Gordon College. Plymouth defeated Wentworth, 4-2, while Gordon edged Springfield in penalty kicks, 4-3, after the teams played to a scoreless tie. .

Whalley scored the game-winner goal in the 70th minute on a penalty kick to snap a 1-1 tie. Whalley also assisted on Joe Calabrese's goal that staked Westfield to a 1-0 halftime lead.

The Owls added an insurance goal from sophomore Jay Martins of Ludlow with four minutes remaining. The goal originated on a pass down the left sideline from Whalley to sophomore Jay Chelo of Ludlow. Chelo then delivered a perfect left footed cross to Martins near the right post.

WNEC tied the score in the 61st minute on a goal by freshman Jose Molina, the Golden Bears' leading scorer.

Goalie D.J. Conway of Springfield - Westfield's only senior - played well between the pipes with 10 saves, including several spectacular stops.

Worcester 2 - Westfield 1

WORCESTER - Worcester State edged Westfield State, 2-1 in the Mass. State Conference men's soccer tournament championship game played Saturday evening, Nov. 3.

The Lancers, 15-2-2 overall, advanced to the NCAA Division III national tournament.

The loss snapped the Owls' nine-game unbeaten streak. Their last defeat before Saturday was a 1-0 loss to Worcester on Sept. 28.

Worcester took a 1-0 lead at the 25-minute mark on an own goal as a Westfield defender headed the ball into his own net following a Worcester cross.

The Lancers increased the lead to 2-0 at the 75-minute mark on goal by Glade Dennis. Westfield scored with seven minutes remaining on a penalty kick by Chris Whalley of Southwick.

Volleyball Falls In Finale

BRIDGEWATER - The Westfield State women's volleyball team lost to Bridgewater State in the championship of the Mass. State Conference tournament.

Bridgewater, 31-5 overall and ranked 8th in New England, swept the Owls 30-25, 30-21, 30-20.

Bridgewater, which was its fourth straight title, was once again led by the tandem of Jennifer Cedrone and Shawna O'Neill. Cedrone, the Conference Player of the Year, recorded 21 kills and 27 digs, while O'Neill tallied 54 assists in two matches.

In the semifinals, Westfield edged Framingham in three sets: 32-30, 32-30, and 30-21.

"Katelyn Foley played well offensively, including serving, and Katie Simlick was consistent the entire day. She made the plays that had to be made," said coach Hilary Ducharme

The Owls finished with a 12-15 overall record and placed second in the Mass. State Conference with a 6-1 mark.

"With our challenging play schedule we had a pretty competitive season," said Ducharme. "We worked through some injuries halfway thru and late in the season and we were a better team for it."

Seniors finishing their four-year careers were Simlick and Sarah Cormier, both first team all conference selections this season.

"Leadership-wise, those are some pretty big shoes to fill," Ducharme said of the two seniors.

Nov. 2001

Men's Soccer Finishes Second

Nov. 2001

Men's Soccer
Plymouth 3 - Westfield State 0

PLYMOUTH, N.H. - Senior tri-captain Garry Thomson (Glasgow, Scotland) was named MVP as he led the Plymouth tate men's soccer team to a 3-0 victory over Westfield State in the ECAC Division 3 New England championship game on Nov. 11.

The Panthers struck in the 13th minute when sophomore Micheal Cantelli headed a free kick past Westfield senior keeper D.J. Conway.

With less than three minutes remaining in the first half, the Owls received a red card to go down a man for the remainder of the match. Plymouth capitalized on the man-advantage in the 60th minute when Thomson's free kick was headed into the goal by Nick Libera.

Plymouth added another goal in the 81st minute.

The Panther defense continued its stellar play, holding the Owls to just five shots.

Plymouth finished with a 14-6 record while Westfield finished at 11-7-2. The Owls were 9-2-2 after dropping five of their first seven games.

"I was very proud of the way we played this season," said coach Paul Whalley. "We improved tremendously throughout the season. I'm really looking forward to next season when we have everybody back with the exception of one player (senior D.J. Conway)."

Men's Soccer
Westfield Wins On Penalty Kicks

WESTFIELD - Westfield State advanced to the championship game of the ECAC New England Division III men's soccer tournament by outshooting Babson, 4-2, in penalty kicks on Nov. 10.

The match was officially recorded as a draw after the teams played to a 1-1 tie through regulation and the two 15-minute sudden death periods.

Freshman Jeff Whittaker of Southwick nailed the game-winning penalty kick in the top half of the fifth round, following D.J. Conway's save on Babson's Mark Kersker to end the fourth round.

The Owls scored the match's first goal 11:11 into the contest on a direct kick that sophomore Jay Chelo of Ludlow hooked just inside the far post from about 20 yards.

Babson evened the score five minutes later when Addison Marsh knocked in a loose ball during a scramble in front of the net.

Men's Cross Country

WESTFIELD - Westfield State College placed 23rd in the NCAA Division 3 New England Regional men's cross country championships held Nov. 10 at Stanley Park in Westfield.

Keene State won the 35-team meet with 54 points, followed by Bowdoin (83), and MIT (106).

Keene State junior Mark Miller won the five-mile race in 24:53. Westfield's top finisher was Geoff Churchill, who placed 86th in 27:07.

A total of 247 runners participated in the regional meet.

Women's Cross Country

WESTFIELD - Westfield State placed 26th in the NCAA Division 3 New England Regional women's cross country championships held Nov. 10 at Stanley Park in Westfield.

Middlebury won the 35-team meet with 65 points followed by Williams (76) and Amherst (86).

Williams junior Julia Bensen won the 3.1 mile race in 17:24. She was closely followed by teammate Jenn Campbell (17:25), and Keene State's Mary Proulx (17:26).

Senior Starr Hockenberry of Southwick was Westfield's top runner, finishing 126th in 20:21.

A total of 274 runners participated in the regional meet.

Women's Swimming
Westfield 163 - Plymouth 131

WESTFIELD - The Westfield State College women's swimming and diving team defeated Plymouth State, 163-131 on Nov. 10.

Double winners for Westfield were Dana LedDuke (100 butterfly, 50 butterfly), Kim MacKenzie (50 and 100 breaststroke) and Jenny Gilbert (100 backstroke, 50 backstroke).

Also placing first were Kristie Webster (1,000 freestyle) and Heather Nelson (200 freestyle).

Defense Receives National Honors

Defense wins championships and it can also gain you national recognition.

Westfield State, riding on the coattails of its defense throughout its perfect 10-0 regular season, led the nation in total defense, according to statistics released by the NCAA.

The Owls allowed an average of 188.0 yards per game to easily outdistance Millikin University of Illinois, which gave up 203.9 yards per game.

The Owls will receive a special plaque from the NCAA for finishing first in total defense in Division III. Only regular season games are included in final statistics; NCAA Tournament games are not included.

"This is a great honor for our program," said head coach Steve Marino. "I have to give a lot of the credit to defensive coordinator Pete Kowalski. "He had excellent game plans and had the kids ready to play each game.

"We did have a lot of talented players this year," continued Marino. "But the big thing is that they played well together."

The Westfield defense also finished second nationally in pass efficiency defense (65.5 rating); eighth in scoring defense (11.0 points per game); eighth in rushing defense (74.4 yards per game); and 10th in turnover margin (plus 18).

Individually, middle linebacker Josue Zamora ranked 29th nationally in tackles per game with an 11.0 average. Zamora was an unanimous selection as the New England Football Conference Defensive Player of the Year. Also, end John Cloutier ranked 19th in tackles for losses (21 in 10 games), and defensive back Ryan Clifford was 24th in passes defended per game (1.7) with six interceptions and 11 pass breakups.

Senior running back Shawn Lyman made a name for himself on the national level as he ranked third in Division III in rushing yards per game (145.2). He averaged nearly 30 carries per game (294) while rushing for 1,452 yards.

By Mickey Curtis, SID

Owls Capture Football Championship

By Mickey Curtis, SID

WORCESTER - Another stellar defensive effort and the running of Shawn Lyman (157 yards, 31 carries, one touchdown) powered Westfield State College to a 12-0 victory over Nichols College in the New England Football Conference championship game on Nov.10.

Westfield, 10-0, including a 14-7 victory at Nichols two weeks ago, captured its first NEFC title and qualified for its first NCAA tournament.

"Who would have thought at the beginning of the season we would be here," said Lyman, a senior from West Springfield who ranks fourth nationally in rushing yards per game. "A lot of people doubted how good we were and we had to prove ourselves each week. This is a great feeling."

While the Owls controlled the time of possession (36 minutes) it was their defense that controlled the tempo. Westfield - ranked second nationally in total defense and passing defense - limited Nichols to seven first downs and 124 net yards.

"I just have two words to say: Pete Kowalski," Westfield head coach Steve Marino remarked of his fiery defensive coordinator. "He's done an unbelievable job with the defense this year. He had an excellent game plan today and the kids executed it."

Lyman scored the game's only touchdown on a 20-yard run on a fourth-and two situation. Lyman found a seam on the right side, shed a tackle, then sprinted straight to the endzone to give the Owls a 9-0 lead 11 seconds into the fourth quarter.

"That was a power back play to the split end side that we hadn't run much and Shawn gave it a good second effort," said Marino.

"It was congested at the start of the (touchdown) play and I bumped into our lead blocker (offensive lineman) George Emanuel," said Lyman. "But I was able to get through the hole and after a broke a tackle I kept my legs pumping. After that nothing was going to stop me....no way we were going to lose this game."

The four-play touchdown drive was set up when the Owls recovered a fumble - one of five Nichols turnovers - at the Nichols 28. Recovering the fumble was senior end Tim Corr of Duxbury, who led the Owls' outstanding defensive effort with seven tackles, five tackles for losses, including all three of Westfield's sacks; a pass breakup, and three pass hurries.

"This is the biggest moment of my career," said Corr, a fifth-year senior who also punted seven times for a 40.7 average. "This is unbelievable. I can't express how I feel - going 10-0 my senior year. But we felt confident today. We felt confident we were going to do it from the beginning."

Two more leaders of the Westfield defense also came up big in the big game. Defensive back Ryan Clifford intercepted two passes, recorded eight tackles and had a pass breakup. He also kicked his first two field goals of the season. Linebacker Josue Zamora registered a team-high 10 tackles and intercepted a pass that set up the Owls' first points of the game.

"Westfield is ranked No. 2 defensively in the nation for a reason," said Nichols coach Bill Carven. "Turnovers killed us; we made too many for a championship

struggle at times but we just ke going. I can't say enough abo how tough these kids are. We ri on our defense's coattails, no dou about it."

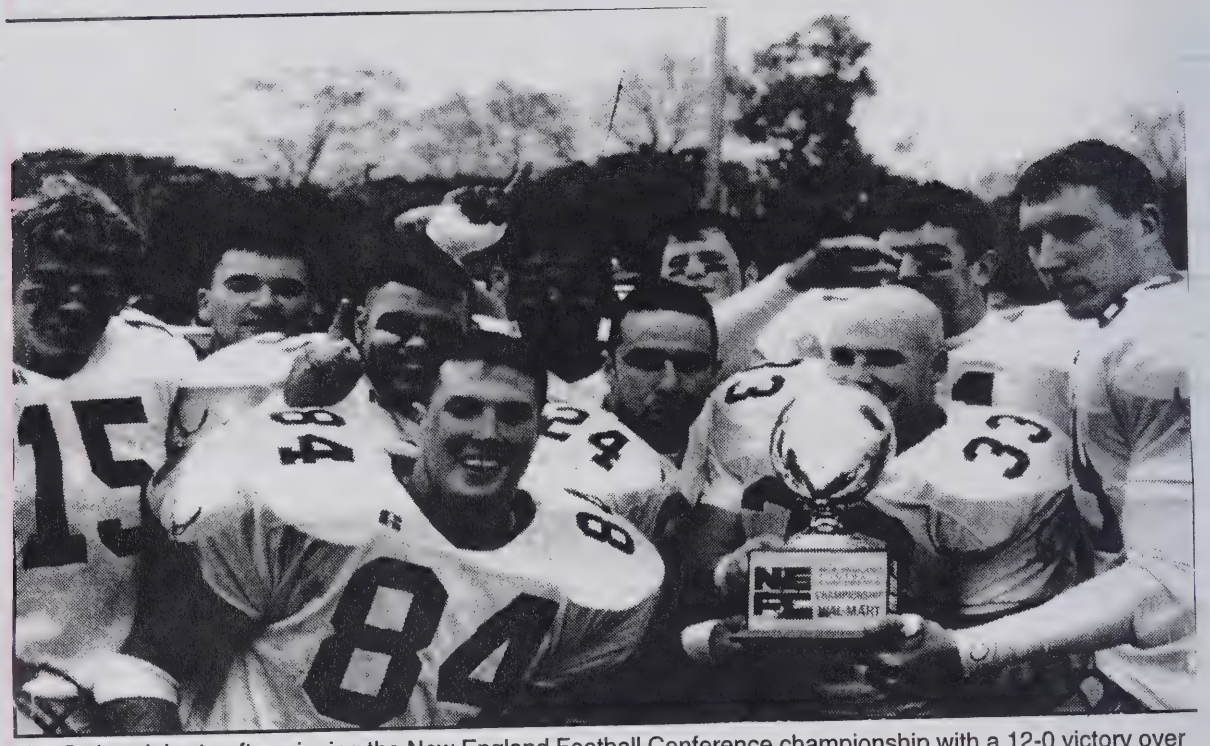
After a scoreless first half, t Owls took a 3-0 lead with 10:07 l in the third quarter on a 20-ya field goal by Clifford. The fir year kicker also booted a 24-ya field goal with 7:10 left in the gan that capped a 14-play, 71-yard dri featuring the running of Lyman.

"We knew we had to get tl running game going because w expected Nichols to be keying c our passing," said Lyman. "Th offensive line wanted to get th yards for me this game."

The Owls had 180 net rushir yards on 52 carries, while quarte back Chris Lapointe only complete 7-of-21 passes for 99 yards. Nicho was held to 40 net rushing yards c 32 attempts and Rouanzoin cor

2001-2002

2001 - 2002



The Owls celebrate after winning the New England Football Conference championship with a 12-0 victory over Nichols College on Nov. 10 at Worcester State College. *Photo By Mickey Curtis*

Ice Hockey Handles Framinghman

The Westfield State ice hockey team defeated Framingham State. 6-4, on Wednesday, Nov. 7.

The Owls jumped out to a 4-0 in the second period behind goals from Bobby Shaw, freshmen Alan Donnelly and Marc McGuire, and Mike Fitzgerald.

Westfield got the game winner on Shaw's second goal late in the second period. Sophomore Mike Palazzola added the insurance goal late in the third.

"We converted on three of seven powerplays, which I am very pleased with; however, we allowed all of their goals while shorthanded. We have to improve and correct our discipline," said Westfield coach Brian Ward.

Sophomore netminder Ardian Kalezic stopped 32 out of 36 shots for his second win of the season. The Owls own a 2-1 record.

Westfield 6 - Lehigh 2

The Westfield State College ice hockey team defeated Lehigh, Pa., in its home opener, 6-2.

The Owls never trailed, as sophomore defenseman and co-captain Kevin Pelkey started the scoring at 17:22 of the first period.

Westfield also received a game-winning goal from team captain Mike Fitzgerald, and sophomore Bobby Shaw led the way with two goals, including a powerplay.

Mike Palazzola added a shorthanded goal, while the Owls also got a goal from James Carapella. Ryan Lawless, last season's leading scorer, added two assists and sophomore goalie Ardian Kalezic stopped 34 shots.

"We did some good things, but we took too many penalties," said coach Brian Ward. "We must improve our discipline. "

The Campus Voice

The Student Press of Westfield State College

Volume VII November 19-December 2, 2001 Issue XI

Football team completes first undefeated regular season, goes on to championships

By Tim Montgomery
Voice Reporter

Outside Ely room 230 hangs a chart with nine weeks laid out to represent the football regular season. On it, written in columns, are defensive objectives like "No More Than 100 Yards Rushing" and "Hold Opponents Scoreless in the Fourth Quarter."

It's a tally sheet that the Westfield State College Div. III Owls football team uses to signify when they reach their defensive goals for the week. When the target is reached the box is highlighted, but it is the top column that is shaded in fluorescent yellow across the top every single week: the win column.

With their 34-30 defeat over Worcester State College in front of 3,430 fans three weekends ago, the Owls (10-0, New England Football Conference, Bogan Div.) have completed their first undefeated regular season.

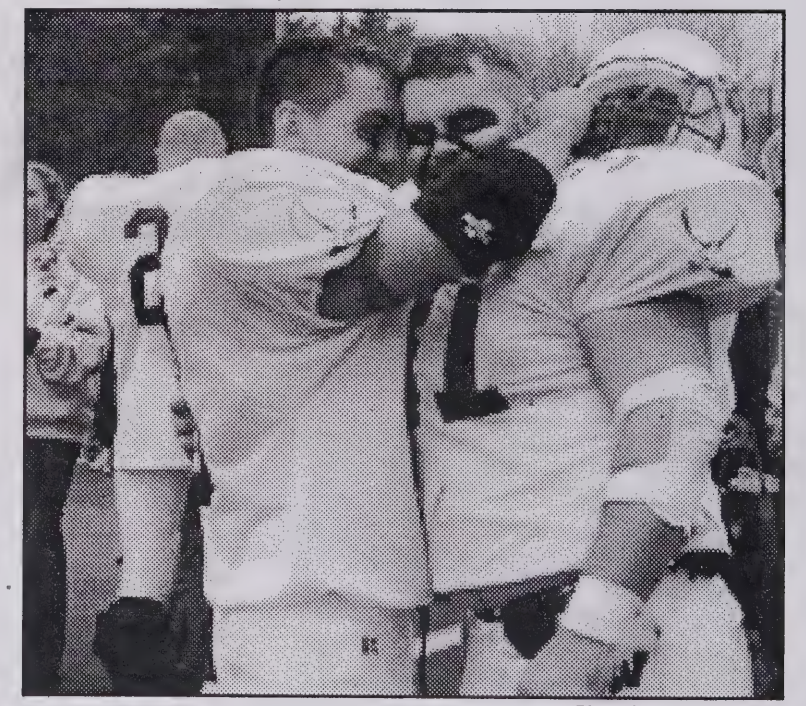
157 yards from Shawn Lyman, on 31 carries, against Nichols College boosted the Owls to a 12-0 victory and their first New England Football Conference (NEFC) championship. Lyman scored the only touchdown of the game and totaled more rush yardage personally than the entire Nichols offense (124 yards).

This winn allowed Westfield to advance to the National Collegiate Athletics Associations Division III Football Championship against the Western Connecticut State Colonials Saturday, November 17.

Describing Westfield State College football in three words is easy- "tastes like candy."

Not only has Westfield's football team dominated the Bogan

Football-Page 2



-Photo by Meg Canning

WSC cornerback Alan Gates hugs fellow teammate Mike Hurteau, linebacker, after their victory over Nichols College on November 10.

2001-2002

Zamora, Lyman, Corr Named All New England

Marino Is Coach Of Year

WESTFIELD, Mass. - The postseason honors keep piling up for the Westfield State College football team.

Westfield State head coach Steve Marino was recognized by the New England Football Writers for his efforts in leading the Owls to the most successful season in the program's 20-year history.

Marino was selected the New England Division II/III Coach of the Year by the writers association. The 12th-year Westfield State coach guided the Owls to their first perfect regular season, their first New England Football Conference championship, and their first NCAA Tournament berth. The Owls posted a 10-0 regular season record before losing to Western Connecticut, 8-7, in the NCAA playoffs.

Marino, a 1971 Westfield State graduate, also was the unanimous selection as Coach of the Year in the 13-team New England Football Conference this season. He also earned NEFC coach of the year honors in 1992.

"I am very honored to receive this award," said Marino. "This was a very rewarding and enjoyable season for me and for Westfield State College. A lot of the credit for our success must go to my four assistant coaches and to the players."

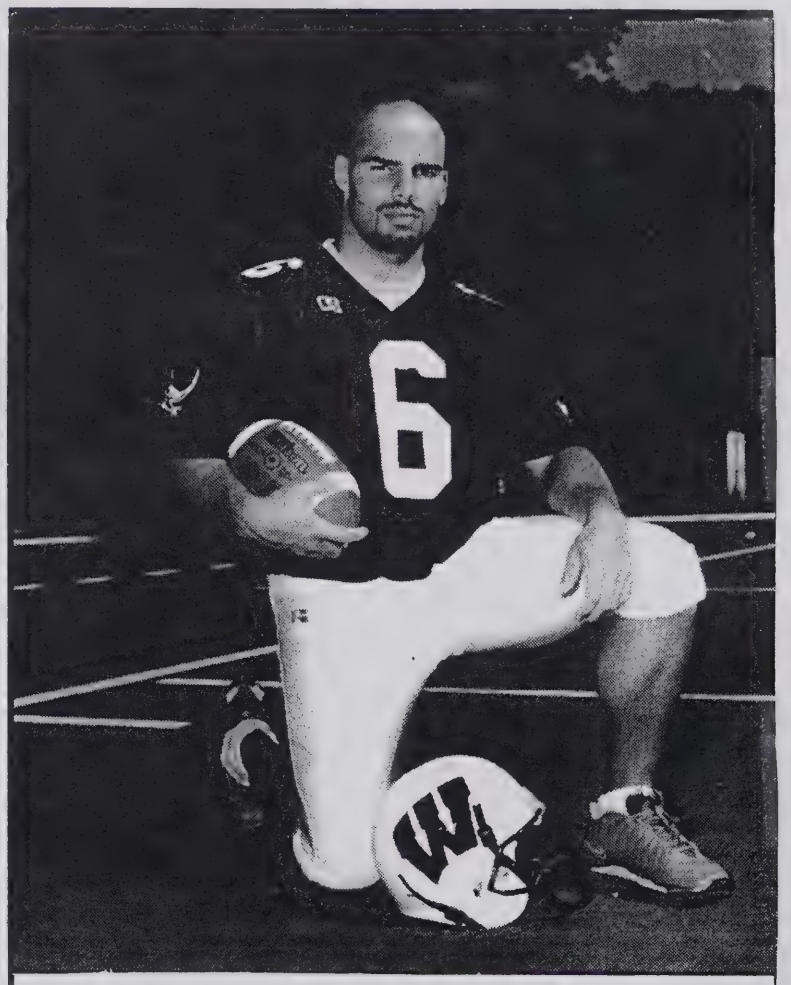
Shawn Lyman, Josue Zamora and Tim Corr were three of the five players from the NEFC who were named to the 2001 All New England Division II/III All-Star team as selected by the New England Football Writers. A total of 28 players from 16 colleges are represented on the unit.

Lyman, a senior running back from West Springfield, ranked third nationally in rushing yards per game (145.2). He averaged nearly 30 carries a game (294) and was a first team all conference selection. In addition, Lyman received the NEFC's prestigious Hal Chalmers Scholar-Athlete Award.

Zamora - a junior middle linebacker from Hartford, Conn. - was an unanimous selection as the Defensive Player of the Year in the New England Football Conference. He led the Owls with 99 tackles and three blocked kicks.

Corr - a senior end from Duxbury - also was a standout for the Owls' defense that ranked first nationally in total defense and second in passing defense. Corr, a two-time first team all conference pick, recorded 50 tackles, including 18 for losses and a team-high nine sacks. He also led the team with two forced fumbles and two fumble recoveries.

Marino and his three players will be honored at the New England Football Writers Captains & Awards banquet on Thursday, Dec. 6, at Lantana's Restaurant in Randolph, Mass.



Gold Helmet Award

Westfield State College football standout Josue Zamora has received three prestigious postseason awards in the past few weeks. Zamora was selected by New England college sportswriters the Gold Helmet Award recipient as the New England Division II/III Player of the Year. The writers also selected him to their All New England Division II/III All-Star team, and he was the unanimous selection as the New England Football Conference Player of the Year. The talented middle linebacker led the Owls' defense that was ranked first in the nation in total defense, second in passing defense, and eighth in rushing defense and scoring defense. Zamora is the first player in the 20-year history of the Westfield State football program to receive the Gold Helmet Award.

2001 - 2002

Eleven Owls Football All-Stars

DEC. 2001

Eleven members of Westfield State's championship football team were recently selected All Conference in the 13-team New England Football Conference.

In voting conducted by the conference coaches, seven Owls were first team all conference selections, led by senior running back Shawn Lyman and junior middle linebacker Josue Zamora.

Zamora made an immediate impact in his first year of college football and he was the unanimous selection as NEFC Defensive Player of the Year. The Hartford, Conn., native led the Owls with 99 tackles and three blocked kicks.

In addition to his first-team selection at running back, Lyman was named the Hal Chalmers Award winner as the NEFC's top scholar-athlete in his final year of eligibility. The West Springfield native ranked third nationally in rushing yards per game (145.2) and also scored 14 touchdowns.

Joining Zamora and Lyman in the spotlight was Westfield State head coach Steve Marino, who was the unanimous selection as the NEFC Coach of the Year. Marino guided the Owls to a 10-0 regular season record and berth in the NCAA Tournament. The 12th-year coach also won the award in 1992.

Other first team selections were junior defensive back Ryan Clifford, senior defensive end Tim Corr, junior offensive guard Dave Duquette, junior offensive tackle Doug Kaczmarczyk, and sophomore wide receiver Matt Yvon.

Clifford was one of three Westfield defensive backs recognized by the conference coaches. The Waltham native led the team with six interceptions and also had 11 pass breakups.

Corr was a leader of the stellar Westfield defense that ranked first nationally in total defense (188.0), second in passing defense, and eighth in both rushing defense (74.4) and scoring (11.0). Corr recorded 50 tackles, including 18 for losses and a team-high nine sacks. The fifth-year senior also had two forced fumbles and two fumble recoveries. The Duxbury native also was first-team all conference last year and was named all conference honorable mention this year as a punter.

Duquette was the leading vote getter at the offensive guard position, while Kaczmarczyk was an anchor for the offense that ranked first in the NEFC in rushing and second in total offense.

Yvon emerged as the go-to guy for Westfield's receiving corps, and came up with game-winning catches in big victories over Nichols and Worcester State. The East Longmeadow native had 52 receptions for 865 yards and 10 touchdowns.

Second-team all conference players were junior defensive back Alan Gates, sophomore linebacker Mike Hurteau, and sophomore center Rob Bryne. Junior defensive back Aaron Ragland made the honorable mention squad.

Gates totaled three interceptions, three fumble recoveries, six pass breakups, and 26 tackles. Hurteau was the second-leading tackler with 62 stops, while Ragland had two interceptions and a team-high 13 pass breakups.

Basketball, Swimming Results

Women's Basketball
Eastern Conn. 75 - Westfield 66

WESTFIELD - Eastern Connecticut withstood a second-half comeback to defeat Westfield State, 75-66, in women's basketball.

Trailing 47-29 at halftime, Westfield State erased the 18-point deficit to tie the score at 64-64 on a three-point basket by junior guard Brenda Knott with 3:31 left.

The Owls also tied the score at 66-66 with 2:30 remaining on a basket by senior forward A.J. LaBelle, who scored a team-high 18 points. But Eastern Connecticut, now 4-0, outscored Westfield 9-0 in the final 1:35.

Sophomore standout forward Allison Coleman sealed the victory by draining a three-point basket from well beyond the arc with 50.1 seconds remaining. Coleman - a first-team All American last season as a freshman - posted game-highs of 24 points and 13 rebounds.

Coleman canned 18 of her points in the first half when the Warriors shot a sizzling 58 percent, including 5-for-9 from three-point range. Westfield's defense stiffened in the second half and held the visitors to 26 percent shooting from the floor..

Junior forward Melissa Cote had 16 points and rebounds for 1-3 Westfield and senior guard Michaela Blaney added six points and 10 boards. Knott finished with 12 points, all in the second half as she sparked the Owls' comeback with her long-range shooting.

Women's Swimming
Westfield State 145 - WNEC 114

WESTFIELD - Sophomore Dana LedDuke won three events to lead the Westfield State swimming and diving team to a 145-114 victory over Western New England College on Tuesday, Nov. 27.

The Owls improved to 2-1 this season as veteran head coach Dave Laing notched his 99th career victory. WNEC dropped to 0-4.

LedDuke placed first in the 100 butterfly (1:08.13), the 50 butterfly (29.93), and the 100 individual medley (1:11.63).

Junior Kim MacKenzie was a double winner for Westfield, hitting the wall first in the 50 breaststroke (36.63) and the 100 breaststroke (1:20:22). Also finishing first for Westfield was freshman Heather Nelson in the 200 freestyle (2:10.84) and freshman Nicole Spataro in the 500 freestyle (6:05.67).

Varsity Fall Sports Awards Banquet is Dec. 11. Students must pick up a ticket in Ely 244 by Wed., Dec. 5, between 9 and 5.

2001-2002

Westfield Places 20 On MASCAC Teams

DEC, 2001

Twenty Westfield State student-athletes representing six sports were named to the Massachusetts State College Athletic Conference All-MASCAC teams during the fall semester.

Five members of the Owls' field hockey team that finished in a three-way tie for the conference championship earned all conference honors. First-team selections were sophomore forward B.J. Dion and junior back Meghan Perreault. Dion also was a first-team pick during her freshman year when she was named conference Rookie of the Year.

Second-team selections were freshman back Sadie Driscoll, senior midfielder Alison Pratt, and senior forward Nikki Girolamo. Pratt also was a second-team honoree last year.

Five members of the men's soccer squad that finished second in both the MASCAC and the ECAC postseason tournaments were named all conference.

Heading the list is junior midfielder Chris Whalley of Southwick, a first-team pick this season and in 2000, and a second-team selection in 1999 when he was the conference Rookie of the Year. Whalley was the Owls' leading scorer this season with 25 points and currently ranks sixth in career assists (31) and 18th in career scoring (67 points) at Westfield State.

Sophomore back Joel Dam was Westfield's other first-team team honoree. The Marshfield native was a second-team pick during his freshman year when he also was named the MASCAC Rookie of the Year.

Second-team selections in the eight-team conference were freshman forward Brian White, sophomore forward Jay Chelo, and goalie D.J. Conway, the team's only senior.

Three members of the women's volleyball team that placed second in the conference were All-MASCAC selections.

First-teamers were setter Sarah Cormier and outside hitter Katie Simlick, Westfield's only two seniors. Both were second-team picks last year. Cormier again led the Owls in assists with 372 this year, while Simlick ranked second in both kills (170) and digs (179). Named to the volleyball second team was junior Tasha Goulet.

Four women's soccer players were named all conference. Junior Janet Bourget of Holden earned all conference honors for the third consecutive year; she was a first-teamer the past two seasons and a second team pick in 1999.

Second-team selections this season were junior back Meg Borsari, senior back Kelly Furlong, and senior forward Joy Flaherty.

Three members of Westfield State's cross country teams earned all conference honors by placing in the top seven at the MASCAC championships. Senior Starr Hockenberry of Southwick finshed third in the women's meet. In the men's race, freshman Geoff Churchill placed fourth and senior Marco Iannello finished seventh.

Zamora Named New England Player of Year

By Mickey Curtis, SID

Josue Zamora - the leader of Westfield State's nationally-ranked defense that vaulted the Owls to their best football season ever - has been selected the recipient of two highly prestigious New England Player of the Year awards.

Zamora will receive the Gold Helmet Award as the Division II/III Player of the Year by the New England Writers Association. He is the first defensive player to claim the annual Gold Helmet since 1994 when Williams' Bobby Walker achieved the rare feat.

Also, Zamora will receive the 'Joe Zabilski" Award as the New England Division II/III Defensive Player of the Year by the Gridiron Club of Greater Boston. Members of the club, formed in 1939, are astute followers of football.

"The people on these committees are former players, coaches and athletic directors and they know what they are talking about," said Ned Cully, club historian. "They talk to each other and research the best players are all season long. If Josue Zamora was picked for this honor he certainly deserves it."

Zamora - also the unanimous selection as Defensive Player of the Year in the 13-team New England Football Conference - led the Owls with 113 tackles in 10 games, including two sacks and 12 tackles for losses. The middle linebacker from Hartford, Conn., (Weaver High School) intercepted three passes and blocked four kicks. In Westfield's thrilling 34-30 victory over Worcester State in a late-season showdown of unbeaten teams, Zamora blocked two punts and an extra point attempt.

"He certainly deserves the honors; he's an extremely talented player," said Westfield State head coach Steve Marino. "He has great quickness and great instincts. I know it's a cliché, but he is just one of those kids who has a nose for the ball; he gets to the ball carrier."

With Zamora the catalyst, the Westfield defense finished the season ranked first nationally in Division III in total defense, allowing an average of 188 yards per game. The Owls were ranked second in passing defense, eighth in both scoring defense (11.0) and rushing defense (74.4) , and 10th in turnover margin (plus 16).

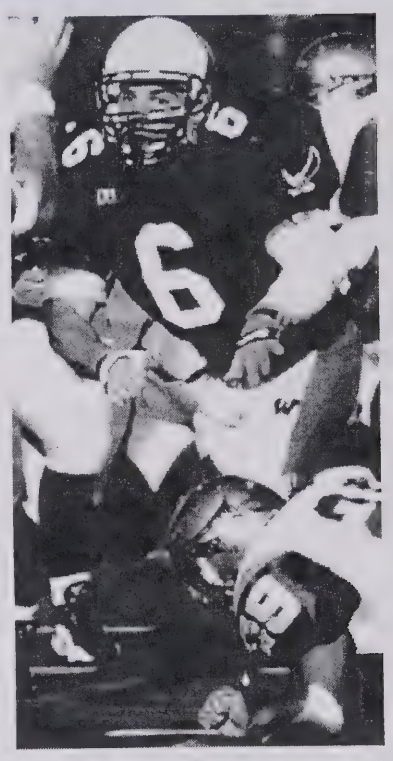
Westfield State posted its first New England Football Conference championship and its first perfect regular season (10-0) before losing to Western Connecticut, 8-7, in its first NCAA Tournament appearance.

"To be honest, all the coaches on the other teams wanted to talk about was No. 6 (Zamora)," Marino said. "He's the player who stood out when they watched film. And what's really amazing is that he hadn't played football in about four years until this season."

Zamora - a transfer from the University of Connecticut - was a standout catcher for the Westfield State baseball team for the past two seasons. At the present time, he plans to play baseball in the spring and graduate in May.

Zamora will be teamed up with some other outstanding athletes when he hits the banquet circuit. Carl Morris, the standout wide receiver for Harvard University, was the Gold Helmet Division I Player of the Year. The New England writers banquet is scheduled for Dec. 6 in Randolph, Mass.

The Gridiron Club of Greater Boston's Offensive Player of the Year is Williams College quarterback Joseph Reardon. The club's Division I Players of the Year are Harvard quarterback Neil Rose and Boston College linebacker Scott Bradley. The club's banquet is scheduled for Jan. 4 in Saugus, Mass., with New England England Patriot Hall of Famer John Hannah as guest speaker.



Josue Zamora

7 Owls ECAC All-Stars

Seven members of the championship Westfield State football team have been selected ECAC Division III Northeast football All-Stars.

The voting was conducted by the coaches from the 29 New England football-playing colleges.

First-team selections were running back Shawn Lyman and linebacker Josue Zamora. Lyman ranked third nationally in rushing yards per game and set a single-season school record with 1,483 rushing yards. Zamora led the Owls' nationally-ranked defense.

Second-team selections were sophomore wide receiver Matt Yvon, junior offensive lineman Dave Duquette, senior defensive end Tim Corr, and junior defensive back Ryan Clifford. Junior Doug Kaczmarczyk was an honorable mention pick.

2001 - 2002

2001-2002

Basketball Edged By Western Conn.

Dec. 2001

Men's Basketball
Western Conn. 75 - Westfield 74

DANBURY, Conn. - Freshman guard Greg Coles buried a long three-pointer with three seconds remaining to lift Western Connecticut to a 75-74 victory over Westfield State on Dec. 4.

Junior guard Casey Bock had a team-high 18 points and six assists. Three other players scored in double figures in the balanced attack for the winners, who drained 9 of 20 three-pointer attempts.

Trailing 69-62, Westfield took a 74-72 lead with 14 seconds remaining on a free throw by Bryant James. James led the Owls, now 2-4, with 19 points, including two spectacular dunks.

Vaso Jaukovic added 18 points and a game-high 13 rebounds.

Leonard Miller, a former Western Connecticut player, added 16 points for Westfield. Miller canned two free throws with 44 seconds remaining to give the Owls a 73-71 lead.

Women's Basketball
Western Conn.53 - Westfield 39

DANBURY - The Westfield State women's basketball team dropped a 53-39 decision to Western Connecticut on Dec. 4.

Westfield, 1-5, only shot 25 percent from the field (12 for 48) and 50 percent (12 for 24) from the foul line. The Owls, who trailed 22-18 at halftime, also committed 31 turnovers.

Senior guard Michaela Blaney was Westfield's only double-figure scorer with 12 points.

Westfield's next game is Monday, Dec. 10, at Smith College.

Westfield's final home game this semester is Wednesday, Dec. 12, when it hosts Pine Manor.

Ice Hockey Falls To Suffolk

BOSTON - The Westfield State ice hockey team dropped a 7-3 decision to Suffolk University on Tuesday, Dec. 4, at the Boston University Walter Brown Arena.

Westfield got goals from Ryan Lawless and freshmen Bill Colella and Alan Donnelly. Mike Fitzgerald added two assists.

"We did not play well the entire game," said coach Brian Ward. "We lacked intensity and got outworked. Unfortunately, it was our worst performance of the season. How they react from this will be very telling."

The Owls' next home game is Dec. 12 vs. the Harvard JV at 7:00.

Whalley Is Third Team All New England In Men's Soccer

Westfield State College's Chris Whalley was recently selected third team All New England in men's soccer.

The junior midfielder from Southwick led the 11-7-2 Owls to a runner-up finish in both the Mass. State Conference and ECAC postseason tournament. He is a three-time all conference selection and was the conference Rookie of the Year in 1999.

Whalley was the Owls' leading scorer this season with 25 points and currently ranks sixth in career assists (31) and 18th in career scoring (67) at Westfield State.

Whalley is the second Westfield State player in the past two seasons to be accorded All New England status. Karl Labadorf was a first team selection last year.

Twenty-three institutions are respresented on the All New England teams with coaches from 49 colleges taking part in the voting.

Mass. State Conference Smith Cup Standings After Fall Sports Seasons

Place	School	Points	Possible Points	%
1st	Westfield	21.5	36	.597
2nd	Bridgewater	21	36	.583
3rd	Worcester	16	36	.444
4th	Framingham	9	36	.250
6th	Mass. College	2	18	.111
5th	Fitchburg	2.5	36	.069
T-7th	Mass. Maritime	0	24	.000
T-7th	Salem	0	30	.000

2001-2002

Marino Selected Northeast Region Coach Of Year

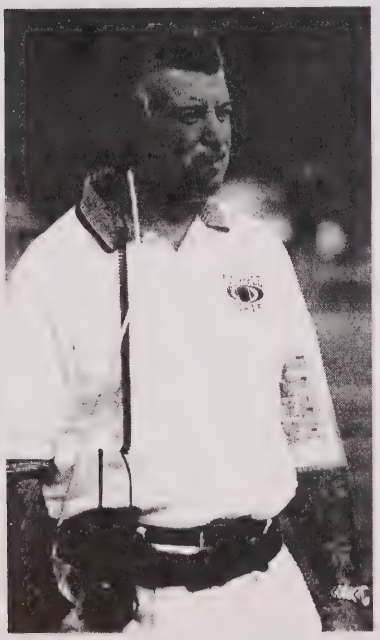
Dec. 2001

Westfield State's success on the football field has not gone unnoticed by Steve Marino's coaching colleagues, as it was announced this week that Marino will receive two more major coaching awards to add to the already growing list of honors for him and his 2001 championship football squad.

Marino, who led the Owls to a perfect 10-0 regular season record after going 3-6 in 2000, was named the American Football Coaches Association (AFCA) Region 1 Coach of the Year for Division III colleges. Region I includes New England , New Jersey and New York.

"What makes this award special is that this is the only coach of the year award voted exclusively by the coaches themselves," said AFCA executive director Grant Teaff. "The winners are selected by the coaches they compete with and against on a daily basis."

The AFCA recognizes five regional Coach of the Year winners in each of the Association's four divisions: I-A, I-AA, Division II, and Division III. The 20 honorees will receive their awards at the AFCA national convention in San Antonio on Jan. 8. Division I region winners include Harvard's Tim Murphy, Nebraska's Frank Solich and Florida's Steve Spurrier.



Steve Marino

"I am both honored and humbled to receive this award," said Marino. "I truly consider this a team award. My players and coaching staff are the ones who made this possible."

The Owls posted the first perfect regular season in the program's 20-year history, and also captured their first New England Football Conference championship and landed their first NCAA Tournament berth.

In addition, it was announced this week that Marino will receive another New England-based award. The Gridiron Club of Greater Boston has named Marino as its New England Division II/III Coach of the Year. He will receive the award on Jan. 4, where he will be joined at the head table by Westfield State linebacker Josue Zamora, who was named the club's Defensive Player of the Year.

Last week, Marino was named the New England Football Writers Division II/III Coach of the Year, and he was the unanimous selection as Coach of the Year in the 13-team New England Football Conference.

What makes Marino's honors even more impressive is that he is a part-time head coach, who worked with a staff of only four assistants this season. Marino has been employed full time at Ludlow High School since graduating from Westfield State in 1971. He taught English for 29 years before moving into an administrative post as dean of students last year.

"My heartfelt congratulations to Coach Marino and the entire football team for an exciting year," said Westfield State College President Frederick W. Woodward. "They should be proud of their accomplishments and the recognition they brought to their college. A season such as this is indeed a rare experience that I hope they will all remember with pride. 'It will be a story for grandkids.'"

2001-2002

Feb 2002

Eleven members of the Westfield State College football team were named to the New England Football Conference all conference team. In the first row, left to right, are; Alan Gates, Aaron Ragland, Mike Hurteau, Shawn Lyman, coach Steve Marino. Second row: Doug Kaczmarczyk, Matt Yvon, Tim Corr, assistant coach Pete "Killer" Kowalski. Third row: Dave Duquette, Ryan Clifford, and Josue Zamora. Missing is Rob Byrne.

Photo By Mickey Curtis

2001 Football - Individual Honors

Hewlett Packard First Team All American - Josue Zamora (linebacker)
Hewlett Packard Honorable Mention All American - Shawn Lyman (r-back)
D3football.com Third Team All American - Josue Zamora (linebacker)
D3football.com Honorable Mention All American - Tim Corr (defensive end)
New England Writers Gold Helmet Division 2/3 Player of the Year: Josue Zamora
Gridiron Club of Greater Boston Division 2/3 Defensive Player of the Year: Josue Zamora
New England Football Writers Division 2/3 All New England Team
Tim Corr (def. line); Shawn Lyman (running back); Josue Zamora (linebacker)
ECAC Division 3 All New England All-Stars
First Team - Shawn Lyman (running back); Josue Zamora (linebacker)
Second Team: Matt Yvon (wide receiver); Dave Duquette (offensive line); Tim Corr (defensive line); Ryan Clifford (defensive back)
Honorable Mention: Doug Kaczmarcyzk (offensive line)
***Football Gazette* Division 3 All-East Region Team**
First Team: Ryan Clifford (defensive back); Tim Corr (defensive end)
Third Team: Shawn Lyman (running back)
New England Football Conference 2001 All-Conference Team
First Team: Ryan Clifford (defensive back); Tim Corr (defensive line); Josue Zamora (linebacker); Dave Duquette (offensive line); Doug Kaczmarczyk (offensive line); Shawn Lyman (running back); Matt Yvon (wide receiver)
Second Team: Alan Gates (d-back); Mike Hurteau (linebacker); Rob Byrne (center)
Honorable Mention: Aaron Ragland (defensive back); Tim Corr (punter)
Hal Chalmers Scholar-Athlete Award: Shawn Lyman
NEFC Defensive Player of the Year: Josue Zamora
Westfield State College Football Special Achievement Awards
Outstanding Contributor - David Eaton
12th Player Award - George Emanuel
Lineman of the Year - Tim Corr
Defensive Player of the Year - Josue Zamora
Offensive Player of the Year - Shawn Lyman
Head Coach Steve Marino
AFCA Northeast Region Coach of the Year
Gridiron Club of Greater Boston Division 2/3 Coach of the Year
New England Football Writers Division 2/3 Coach of the Year
New England Football Conference Coach of the Year

Zamora, Lyman Selected Division 3 All-Americans

By Mickey Curtis, SID

Westfield State College added another chapter to its story book football season as it was recently that two of the championship team's star players were named to the 2001 Hewlett-Packard Division III All-America Football Team.

Josue Zamora of Hartford, Conn. (Weaver High School) was a first-team All American linebacker and running back Shawn Lyman of West Springfield was an honorable mention selection.

"This is not only a great honor for Josue and Shawn but a great honor for the football program and the college as well," said Westfield State head coach Steve Marino. "They both had outstanding individual seasons, but they will be the first to say that these are team awards. They realize the team was responsible for a lot of their individual honors this season."

Westfield State posted the first perfect regular season in the program's 20-year history, going 10-0 in capturing its first New England Football Conference championship. The Owls - who were ranked first nationally in total defense and No. 2 in passing defense - also qualified for their first NCAA Tournament.

Zamora made an incredible impact in his first year of collegiate football. The 5-10, 220-pound senior received the Gold Helmet Award as the best player in New England Divisions II and III. In addition, he was the unanimous selection as Defensive Player of the Year in the 13-team New England Football Conference.

"Josue is a great player, no question about it," said Marino. "He has great quickness and is always around the ball."

Lyman was the third leading rushing in NCAA Division III this season, averaging 145.2 yards per game. He led the Owls in scoring with 14 touchdowns and was a first-team All New England selection.

"Shawn being selected an All American is impressive, especially with all he had to do this semester," said Marino. "And he averaged nearly 30 carries a game."

Lyman's senior season almost ended abruptly after the fourth game when he was called to active military duty at Westover Air Reserve Base in Chicopee. Despite working 60-65 hours per week at the base, Lyman continued to carry a full course load while carrying the Owls to their championship season.

"Shawn was an inspiration to every player on the team," said Marino.

The 24th annual All-America teams were selected by a panel of 30 sports information directors representing the four regions in NCAA Division III. Voters made first-, second-, and third-team selections with candidates receiving points on a 25-15-10 scale.

"There are three or four different groups that select Division Three All America teams but the Hewlitt-Packard All America team is the most prestigious and the most creditable," said Westfield State sports information director Mickey Curtis, who is a voting member in the East Region.

Zamora received the fourth most votes at linebacker, a highly competitive position with 73 nominees. Lyman received the ninth most votes at running back.

The ballot included 423 players representing 160 of the 228 NCAA Division III (non-scholarship) football-playing institutions.

Westfield State now has five players who have been honored by the sports information directors. The Owls' other All Americans are: West Springfield native Jamie Shankle (honorable mention, kick returner, 1989); Jeff Stackpole (second team, tight end, 1987), and John Crowley (honorable mention, defensive line, 1985).

Four other players from New England made this year's Hewlett-Packard All-America squad: Plymouth State's John Walters (third team tight end); Amherst's Pat McGee (third team defensive line); Tufts' Mike Willey (honorable mention offensive guard); and Curry's Alfonzo Dixon (honorable mention defensive back).

Josue Zamora had many words of thanks after receiving his award as the New England Division 2-3 defensive player of the year. Sitting at the far right is Harvard head coach Tim Murphy, who was selected the New England Division I coach of the year. *Photo By Mickey Curtis*

2001-2002

Corr, Zamora Honored By D3.football.com

Josue Zamora and Tim Corr - defensive standouts for the Westfield State football championship team - were selected as All Americans by the D3football.com website.

Zamora was a third-team selection at linebacker, and Corr received All America honorable mention recognition as a defensive end.

Zamora had a spectacular season for the Owls (see related story) as did Corr, a fifth-year senior from Duxbury. The 6-4, 215-pound end established school career records for tackles by an interior lineman (229), fumble recoveries (9), sacks (28 1/2), fumbles caused (6), and tackles for losses (55). He also set a record for sacks in a season (10 in 1999).

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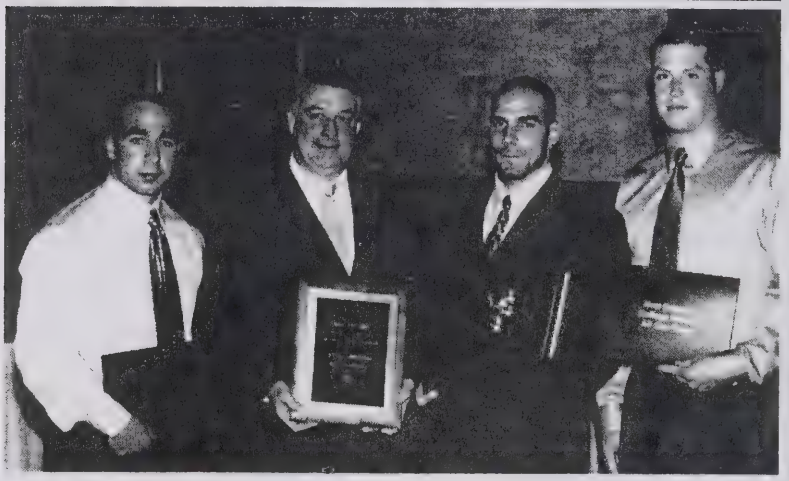

Shawn Lyman, Coach Steve Marino, Josue Zamora, and Tim Corr display the awards they received at the New England Football sportswriters banquet. Lyman, Zamora and Corr were recenlty selected to All America teams in a fitting end to the Owls' highly successful football season.

Photo By Mickey Curtis

Josue Zamora and coach Steve Marino shared a few moments with former Patriot standout and NFL Hall of Famer John Hannah at the Gridiron Club of Greater Boston banquet held in early January. Hannah was the featured speaker, while Zamora and Marino picked up impressive trophies for being selected the Club's New England Division 2/3 defensive player of the year and coach of the year.

Photo By Mickey Curtis

Veteran women's swimming and diving coach Dave Laing receives a plaque from athletics director Ken Magarian after his 100th career victory on Tuesday, Jan. 29. Photo By Mickey Curtis

Laing Records 100th Career Swim Victory

WESTFIELD - The Westfield State College women's swimming and diving team defeated Saint Joseph College, Conn., 142-125, on Tuesday, Jan, 29, to give veteran head coach Dave Laing his 100th career victory.

Laing now has a 100-76-1 record in his 20 years at Westfield State, including a 95-55 record the past 16 seasons. The Owls, 3-4 this season with two meets remaining, have posted eight consecutive winning seasons.

Double winners for Westfield were Jenny Gilbert in the 50 backstroke (31.49) and 100 backstroke (1:10.84), and Kim MacKenzie in the 50 breaststroke (36.95) and 100 breaststroke (1:18.43).

Also registering victories were Kristie Webster of West Springfield in the 400 individual medley (5:24.99); Nicole Spataro in the 100 butterfly (1:10.07); Kelly Reardon in the one-meter diving (166.0), and the 200 medley relay team of Gilbert, MacKenzie Spataro and Dana LedDuke.

Finishing second for the Owls were: Nicole Acheson (200 freestyle), Spataro (50 backstroke), Colleen Boisvert (100 butterfly), Heather Nelson (50 freestyle), Clare Counoyer (one meter diving), and MacKenzie (100 freestyle).

Westfield's final dual meet of the season is Wednesday, Feb. 6, when it hosts Salem State at 6:00 p.m.

2001-2002

2001-2002

Ice Hockey Squad Slaps Central Conn.

Feb 2002

The Westfield State College hockey team routed Central Connecticut State, 12-2, on Wednesday, Jan. 30, at Amelia Park.

The convincing victory avenged a 6-4 loss to Central Connecticut 11 days earlier.

The Owls erupted for six first-period goals, and had seven different scorers in the game.

Bobby Shaw, Marc McGuire, Alan Donnelly, Ardjent Kalezic and James Carapella all had a pair of goals. Kalezic also was credited with three assists. Recording two assists were Mike Palazzola, Matt Stone and Ryan Lawless.

Goalie Ardian Kalezic picked up fifth win, improving his record to 5-3-2.

The Owls are 3-0-1 since the Jan. 19 loss to Central Connecticut.

"That loss to Central sparked something," said coach Brian Ward. "We are not the same team we were two weeks ago. These guys have faced a lot of adversity this season and they are responding," said Ward.

The Owls now own a 7-9-2 overall record, including a 4-3 home mark. They play this Friday at the University of Delaware and Saturday at Drexel University in Philadelphia.

Westfield's next home game is Saturday, Feb. 16, vs. Nichols College at 5:30 p.m.

Westfield 5 - Navy 5

ANNAPOLIS, Md. - The Westfield State ice hockey team battled to a 5-5 tie with Navy on Saturday, Jan. 26.

Westfield jumped out to a 2-0 first-period lead, then Navy scored four unanswered goals for a 4-2 lead early in the third period.

Westfield scored three goals in the third period, two on the powerplay, to deadlock the score at 5-5. The Owls outshot the Midshipmen in overtime but could not break the tie.

Westfield State goaltender Ardy Kalezic played extremely well, stopping 38 shots. Ryan Lawless scored the tying goal late in the game at the 2:36 mark. Also scoring were Mike Palazzola (two goals), Bobby Shaw and Alan Donnelly.

Keith Nadeau, Mike Palazzola and Marc McGuire each had an assist, while Bobby Shaw and Ardjent Kalezic had a pair of assists. Kevin Pelkey, Matt Stone and Keith Nadeau anchored the defense.

"This was a big test for us, and we passed," said coach Brian Ward. "This team, for the second game in a row, showed character, perseverance and heart. Beating the Naval Academy at home is not an easy thing to do. We had our chances in overtime to win, but just could not convert.

"Navy was extremely hard working and disciplined in its systems," he continued. "Surprisingly, they lost their discipline in the third period and we cashed in on two powerplay goals. I told the team before the game that we must match their work ethic and discipline to win. We accomplished that, and then some."

Westfield 9 - Lehigh 4

BETHLEHEM, Pa. - The Westfield State hockey team defeated Lehigh University for the second time this season by a 9-4 score on Sunday, Jan. 27.

There were seven different goal scorers for Westfield State, including a pair from Alan Donnelly and Ardjent Kalezic. Keith Nadeau, Steve Savage, Mike Palazzola, and Ken Hetzel each added a goal. Kevin Pelkey tallied three assists, while Matt Stone racked up four assists. Bobby Shaw and Alan Donnelly each had a pair of assists, and Ryan Lawless and Ardjent Kalezic each had one.

Westfield converted on 6 of 10 powerplays while allowing no scores by Lehigh on its seven powerplay opportunities. Dustin Durej picked up his second consecutive win, stopping 33 shots.

"We finished them off in the third period when we turned it up a notch. When we played our game we dominated, especially on the man advantage. This was a good confidence booster for a few of the guys, especially for our powerplay units," said Ward.

2001 - 2002

Men's, Women's Basketball Report

Men's College Basketball
Bridgewater 70 - Westfield 63

BRIDGEWATER - The Westfield State men's basketball team suffered its fifth straight loss as it was beaten by Bridgewater State, 70-63, on Tuesday, Jan. 29.

The Owls dropped to 7-11 overall and 3-4 in the Mass. State Conference. Bridgewater is 9-10 and 4-3.

Behind the hot shooting of Phil Conners, the Owls led at halftime, 28-25. Conners scored 11 of his team-high 19 points in the first half as he connected on all three of his 3-point attempts. He also made both of his 3-point attempts in the second half.

Bridgewater outscored Westfield 45-35 in the second half as the Bears shot 58 percent from the field.

Ethan Slavin scored 14 points in Westfield's balanced attack, including 4 of 7 from 3-point range. Chris Gonynor - a 6-8 freshman center from Orange - tallied 12 points and Leonard Miller had 10.

The Owls again were outscored from the foul line as they were whistled for 25 fouls. Westfield was 10 for 12 from the charity stripe but Bridgewater made 19 of 33 free throws. Also, Westfield committed 21 turnovers to Bridgewater's 12.

Women's Basketball
Bridgewater 57 - Westfield 51

BRIDGEWATER - A hot-shooting Bridgewater State women's basketball team outscored Westfield State, 57-51, on Tuesday, Jan. 29.

The Bridgewater victory snapped a 26-game losing streak to Westfield dating back to the 1990 season. The Bears improved to 10-8 overall and 4-3 in the conference. Westfield is 7-12 and 4-3.

Westfield led 18-17 at halftime as both teams shot 27 percent from the field. In the second half, however, Bridgewater shot a sizzling 60 percent from the field (12 for 20) in defeating Westfield State for the first time in 12 years.

For the game the Bears also shot well from the foul line (12 for 14) and 3-point range (7 for 12). Lora O'Connell finished with a game-high 23 points, including five 3-point baskets.

Juniors Brenda Knott and Alissa Tedesco both scored 15 points for Westfield. Melissa Cote came off the bench to grab 10 rebounds. Leading scorer A.J. LaBelle had an off shooting night and finished with six points, but she had eight rebounds and seven steals.

Men's College Basketball
Mass. College 82 - Westfield 77

WESTFIELD - Pat Reardon - a 6-10 junior center from Springfield (Central High School) - had 25 points and 14 rebounds as Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts outlasted Westfield State, 82-77, on Saturday, Jan. 26.

MCLA led 32-24 at halftime and expanded its lead to 18 points, 53-35, with 12:30 remaining in the game. But sparked by a scoring explosion from senior guard Phil Conners (Lowell), along with a fullcourt pressure defense, the Owls quickly cut into the large lead.

Conners scored 13 consecutive points, including three 3-point baskets, in a 1:38 stretch, as the Owls closed to within six, 66-60, with 6:06 remaining.

Westfield took its first of two leads, 75-74, but couldn't pull off the complete comeback.

Conners scored a career-high 25 points, including 5 of 10 from 3-point range.

Women's Basketball
Westfield 66 - Mass. College 44

WESTFIELD - Junior forward Nicole Sealander of Easthampton recorded career highs of 16 points and 14 rebounds to lead the Westfield State past Mass. College of Liberal Arts.

Westfield State senior A.J. LaBelle scored her 1,000th career point on Dec. 12. LaBelle now has 1,145 career points to move into sixth place on the all-time list.

Student-Athletes Needed For TEAM READ

The athletics department is looking for student-athletes to volunteer for the TEAM READ community service project. Student-athletes will be serving as "Homework Assistants" at the Westfield Boys and Girls Library on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Nancy Bals, assistant athletics director, is seeking volunteers to work two time slots on those days: 3:30 to 5:30 and 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Nancy can be reached in Ely 246 or at extension 5515.

Indoor Track, Field Results

Williams Relays - Jan. 26, 2002

MEN'S TEAM STANDINGS: MIT 253; Williams 198; RPI 97; Westfield 40.

SECOND: Ryan Fregeau, 200, 23.18.
FOURTH: Mat LeMaire, 55 hurdles, 8.17; Ryan Fregeau, 55 dash, 6.8; Josh Lewbel, long jump, 21-5; 4 x 800 relay, 9:04.03.
FIFTH: Tom Gilbert, 20 lb. Weight, 45-0; Chris Allie, triple jump, 42-8.
SIXTH: Chris Allie, 400, 53.7.
SEVENTH: Kyle Piazza, shot put, 43-1.
EIGHTH: Tom Bousquet, 1500, 4:15.51; Chris Hume, 400, 54.10; Jim Foley, high jump, 5-9; Peter King, shot put, 41-3.

WOMEN'S TEAM STANDINGS: Williams 266.5; MIT 197; RPI 111; Westfield 18.5

FOURTH: Abbey Laffond, shot put, 37-11.
FIFTH: Abbey Laffond, 20 lb weight throw, 39-0; KellyRose O'Brien, 65.92.
SIXTH: Aimee Worcester, 600, 1:55.04.
SEVENTH: Andrea Sawler, 1000, 3:45.75.
EIGHTH: Sue Lynch, high jump, 4-3.

2001-2002

School Record

Junior co-captain Kelley Reardon of Chelmsford broke a longstanding Westfield State College diving record when she recorded a score of 166.0 in the one-meter 5-voluntary dives during a recent meet vs. Saint Joseph, Conn. The previous school record was 164.95 set in 1991 by Lori Vincent, an All American diver for the Owls.

Swim Team Wins Two To Post 9th Straight Winning Season

Westfield State 121
Salem State 101

WESTFIELD - The Westfield State College women's swimming and diving team defeated Salem State, 121-101, in its final home meet on Wednesday, Feb. 6.

Westfield, which has no seniors on its team, finished its dual meet season with a 5-4 record to post its ninth consecutive winning season under the direction of veteran coach Dave Laing, who now has a 102-76-1 record over the past 20 years.

Claiming victories for the Owls were: Jenny Gilbert in the 50 backstroke, Kim MacKenzie in the 50 breaststroke, Becky Sirota in the 100 butterfly, Erin Flynn in the 50 freestyle, Clare Cournoyer in the one-meter diving, Kelley Reardon in the three-meter diving, and Nicole Spataro in the 100 backstroke.

Placing second were: Nicole Acheson (1000 freestyle), Kristie Webster (50 breaststroke), Colleen Boisvert (100 butterfly), Carman Wegman (50 freestyle), Courtney Burden (one-meter diving), MacKenzie (500 freestyle), Flynn (50 butterfly), and Kate Denneen (three-meter diving).

Thirteen of the 20 student-athletes on Westfield State's roster will be competing in the New England championships, scheduled for Feb. 22-24 at Bentley College.

Westfield State 150
Bridgewater State 131

WESTFIELD - The Westfield State College women's swimming and diving team defeated Bridgewater State, 150-131, on Groundhog Day, Feb. 2.

The Owls placed first in six events. Double winners for Westfield were freshman Heather Nelson (200 freestyle, 100 freestyle), freshman Nicole Spataro (100 butterfly, 500 freestyle), and junior Kelley Reardon (one-meter diving, optional diving).

The Owls' depth keyed the victory as they placed second in 11 events. Finishing second were: Nicole Acheson (1,000 freestyle, 100 freestyle), Spataro (200 freestyle), Jenny Gilbert (50 backstroke, 100 backstroke), Kim MacKenzie (50 breaststroke, 100 breaststroke), Colleen Boisvert (100 butterfly), Nelson (50 freestyle), Katie Denneen (diving events), and Dana LedDuke (50 butterfly).

The Special Season

Feb 2002

Boston College athletics director Gene DeFilippo was the featured speaker at a special reception honoring the 2001 Westfield State championship football team on Tuesday, Feb. 5 in Scanlon Banquet Hall. From left to right are: DeFilippo, seniors Shawn Lyman, Tim Corr and P.J. Lorentzen, and head coach Steve Marino. The reception was co-sponsored by the Gridiron Club of Westfield State. *Photo By Mickey Curtis*

Men's Basketball Report

Salem 86, Westfield State 76

SALEM - Salem State avenged its only league loss as it defeated Westfield State, 86-76, in men's basketball action Feb. 5.

The Vikings improved to 15-5 overall and 7-1 in the Mass. State Conference. Westfield suffered its seventh straight loss to fall to 7-13 overall and 3-6 in the league.

The statistics were fairly even with two exceptions: Westfield committed 19 turnovers to Salem's 13, and the Vikings outshot the Owls, 23-17 from the foul line.

Both teams shot 51 percent from the field and had balanced scoring attacks with four players in double figures.

Guards Ethan Slavin and Phil Conners both scored 14 points for the Owls. Slavin also had team highs of six rebounds and five assists. Sophomores Leonard Miller and Allen Murray each had 13 points.

Worcester 83, Westfield 69

WESTFIELD - Issac Outten (Far Rockaway, NY) scored a game-high 26 points to lead Worcester State (5-16, 3-5 MASCAC) to an 83-69 win Feb. 2.

Outten connected on 11 of 14 shots and added four steals.

Westfield led 39-37 at the half and 59-57 with 9:52 to play, but then went into a four-minute scoring drought in which time the Lancers posted an 8-0 run to take control of the game. Worcester got four points from Darron Andrews (Worceter, MA/Worcester Voke) and three from Jonathan Herman (Naugatuck, CT) in the run.

The Lancers, who shot a sizzling 60 percent from the field, including 74 percent (17 for 23) in the second half.

Westfield had four players in double figures including 20 (17 in the first half) from Ethan Slavin (Mohegan Lake, NY).

Women's Hoops Avenges Loss To Worcester

WESTFIELD - Senior forward AJ LaBelle (Ashfield, MA/Mohawk Regional) scored 16 points to lead Westfield State to a 59-55 win over Worcester State in MASCAC action at the Parenzo Gymnasium on Saturday, Feb. 2.

Westfield led 35-30 at the half and held on down the stretch to defeat the Lancers. The victory avenged a 73-50 setback earlier this season at Worcester State.

The Owls led until the the 2:08 mark of the second half, when Worcester's Donna Zwemke (Ware) scored on a short jumper to give Worcester the lead at 53-52.

The two teams traded baskets, but with 40.6 seconds left, Westfield's Leslie Cooke (South Hadley, MA/Hopkins Academy) drilled a pair of free throws to give Westfield the lead for good, 56-55. The Owls added another free throw by Cooke and two by Brenda Knott (Dudley, MA/Shepard Hill) with 1.9 seconds left to seal the win.

The Owls improve to 8-12, 5-3 in the MASCAC, while Worcester drops to 11-10, 5-3 in the league.

Cooke netted 12 points for Westfield.

Salem 70 - Westfield 52

SALEM - Salem State won its 10th straight game with a 70-52 home victory over Westfield State in women's basketball action on Tuesday, Feb. 5.

The Vikings are 15-5 overall and 8-0 in the Mass.State Conference. Westfield is 8-13 and 5-4.

Poor shooting plagued the Owls, who were 15 for 56 from the field (27 percent) and 19 for 32 (59 percent) from the foul line.

Junior guard Kara Smolinsky scored a game-high 21 points for Salem, which led 34-24 at halftime. Betsy Nichols had 16 points and 10 rebounds.

Junior forward Alissa Tedesco continued to play well for Westfield with team highs of 13 points and nine rebounds. Brenda Knott and Nicole Sealander both scored nine points.

Two of Westfield's top players - senior guard Michaela Blaney and junior center Melissa Cote - did not play.

2001-2002

Indoor Track, Field Results

Wheaton Invitational - Feb. 2, 2002

MEN'S MEET HIGHLIGHTS: Mat LeMaire qualified for the All New Englands, New England Division 3 championships, and the ECAC championships with a time of 7.95 in the 55 hurdles....Tom Gilbert qualified for the New England Division 3 championships with a throw of 45-2 in the shot put.

MEN'S TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Wheaton 123; 2. Bryant 79; 3. Westfield 71.5; 4. Hartwick 59; 5. Bridgewater State 47.5; 6. Community College of Rhode Island 34; 7. Babson 25; 8. Rhode Island College 24; 9. Worcester State 19; 10. Salem State 6; 11. Emmanuel 2; 12. Fitchburg State 1.

SECOND: Ryan Fregeau, 200, 23.02; Mat LeMaire, 55 hurdles, 7.95; 4 x 400 relay, 3:32.86; Tom Gilbert, shot put, 45-2.
THIRD: Peter King, shot put, 42-2.
FOURTH: Tom Bousquet, 3000, 9:08.23; distance medley, 11:09.13.
FIFTH: Geoff Churchill, 1500, 4:19.25; Jim Foley, high jump, 5-10.
SIXTH: David Eaton, 400, 53.47; Marco Iannello, 800, 2:04.61; Nik Wlodyka, 1000, 2:52.58; Kyle Piazza, shot put, 40-6 1/4.
SEVENTH: Greg Aucooin, 200, 23.97; Josh Lewbel, long jump, 20-3.
EIGHTH: Chris Allie, long jump, 20-2 1/4.

WOMEN'S MEET HIGHLIGHTS: Sophomore Jess Silva of Reading qualified for the New England Division 3 and ECAC championships with a school record time of 1:40.61 in the 600 meter run....Sophomore Abbey Laffond of Athol qualified for the New England Division 3 and ECAC championships with a school record throw of 37-5 in the shot put....Jen Howard, in her first collegiate meet, qualified for the New England Division 3 finals by high jump 5-0....Andrea Sawler improved her time by 14 seconds in the 1000 meter run with a 3:31.52 clocking.

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WOMEN'S TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Wheaton 283; 2. Mt. Holyoke 58; 3. Bridgewater State 53; 4. Bryant 37; 5. Westfield 32; 6. Hartwick 25; 7. Rhode Island College 18; 8. Emmanuel 11; 9. Salem 9; 10. Fitchburg 8; 11. Worcester State 3.
SECOND: Andrea Sawler, 1000, 3:31.52.
THIRD: Jess Silva, 600, 1:40.61; Catie Geldert, 3000, 12:15.56.
FOURTH: Jennifer Stryer, 1000, 13:46.71; Abbey Laffond, shot put, 37-5.
SIXTH: Abbey Laffond, weight throw, 38-6 3/4.
SEVENTH: KellyRose O'Brien, 400, 1:04.97; Aimee Worcester, 800, 2:37.41; Jennifer Howard, high jump, 5-9.

Westfield State To Recognize National Girls and Women In Sports: "Celebrating 30 Years of Title IX"

2002 EVENT SCHEDULE

Get Fit - Stay Fit - Spring Break

This is an incentive program for female faculty, staff and students to get fit! Sign up at the Wellness Center, utilize a fitness partner if you like, and receive prizes. The program begins **Monday, February 11th, 2002** and continues until March 8th. Sign up early as the participants will be limited to the first thirty.

Female Athlete Honoree Night

All varsity female athletes will be recognized during haltime and a NGWSD Honoree will be chosen from each team.
Thursday, February 14, 2002
Women's Basketball Game, Parenzo Gym - 6:00 PM
Westfield State College vs. Framingham State College

Women in Sport Quiz

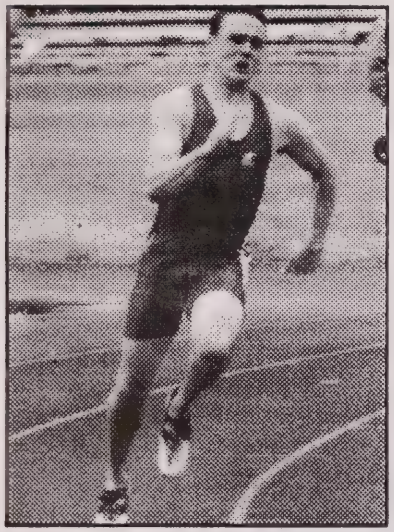
Answer any of the 10 questions correctly and have your name drawn for a t-shirt. Quizzes can be found on the reverse side of this flyer and at the Wellness Center. Completed quizzes can be returned to the Wellness Center Desk or the Campus Center. Deadline for submission is **Tuesday, February 12th, 2002** and t-shirts will be given out at the basketball game on February 14th.

Women, Peace & The Olympic Games

Attend this Guest Lecture Series event and hear speaker Mimi Murray, Professor of Physical Edcucation at Springfield College.
Wednesday, **February 20, 2002**
333 Garden room - 7:00 PM

For More Information, call the Westfield State College Public Affairs Office, 413-572-5208.

Owls Finish High In Track Finals



Junior Ryan Fregeau of Athol won the 55 and 200 meter dashes at the New England Alliance indoor track and field championships held Feb. 10 at the Reggie Lewis Center in Boston. In addition, he was a member of the winning 4 x 400 relay squad. *Mickey Curtis File Photo*

BOSTON - The Westfield State College men and women placed second and third, respectively, in the New England Alliance indoor track and field championships held at the Reggie Lewis Center on Sunday, Feb. 10.

Keene State won the men's title in the 10-team meet with 113 points. Keene was closely followed by Westfield (107) and Eastern Connecticut (105). Westfield's Mass. State Conference rival Bridgewater State finished fourth with 47 points.

In the women's meet, the Owls were a distant third with 61 points. Southern Maine edged Keene State, 169-158, to take the women's team title.

"Overall, I felt we had a good day," said Westfield State coach Sean O'Brien. "We had some very good individual performances from both our men and women. The men's championship was very close, and our women did well placing third despite our small squad size."

In the men's meet, the Owls placed first in six events, led by double winner Ryan Fregeau. The junior standout from Athol sprinted to first places in the 55 (6.75) and the 200 (22.61) dashes.

Also finishing first were junior Josh Lewbel in the long jump (21-4 1/4), junior Chris Allie of Chicopee in the triple jump (42-6 1/4), junior Tom Gilbert of Amherst in the shot put (44-2 3/4), and the 4 x 400 relay squad (3:30.29) that was comprised of Allie, David Eaton, Fregeau and Hume.

Placing second were sophomores Mat LeMaire in the 55 hurdles and Stanley Pau in the shot put. Chris Hume of Orange (Mahar Regional), another member of Westfield's standout junior class, finished third in the 55 hurdles and fourth in the 400.

Placing first for the Westfield State women were sophomore Jess Silva with a fine time of 59.92 in the 400 and sophomore Lis Collins in the shot put (35-10 3/4).

Silva, a Reading High School graduate, also finished third in the 55 dash and sixth in the 200.

Freshman Jen Howard finished second in the high jump, and sophomore Abbey Laffond of Athol placed second in the shot put and fifth in the 20-pound weight throw.

2001-2002

2001-2002

Indoor Track, Field Results

feb 2002

New England Alliance Men's Indoor Track and Field Championships
Feb. 10,2002
Reggie Lewis Center, Boston

MEN'S TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Keene State 113; 2. Westfield State 107; 3. Eastern Connecticut 105; 4. Bridgewater State 47; 5. U-Mass Dartmouth 39; 6. Rhode Island College 33; 7. Salem State 30; 8. Worcester State 27; 9. Southern Maine 14; 10. Fitchburg State 11.

FIRST: Ryan Fregeau, 55 dash, 6.75; Ryan Fregeau, 200, 22.61; Josh Lewbel, long jump, 21-4 1/4; Chris Allie, triple jump, 42-6 1/4; Tom Gilbert, shot put, 44-2 3/4; 4 x 400 relay, 3:30.29.
SECOND: Mat LeMaire, 55 hurdles, 8.21; Stanley Pau, shot put, 43-1 3/4.
THIRD: Chris Hume, 55 hurdles, 8.36; 4 x 800 relay, 8:28.08.
FOURTH: Greg Aucoin, 55 dash, 6.94; Chris Hume, 400, 52.28; Tom Bousquet, 3000, 9:01.89.
FIFTH: Marco Iannello, 800, 2:03.08; Greg Aucoin, 200, 23.73; Tom Gilbert, 20 lb. weight throw, 42-8.
SIXTH: Geoff Churchhill, 1500, 4:13.02.

New England Alliance Women's Indoor Track and Field Championships
Feb. 10,2002
Reggie Lewis Center, Boston

WOMEN'S TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Southern Maine 169; 2. Keene State 158; 3. Westfield State 61; 4. Eastern Connecticut 47; 5. Bridgewater State 43; 6. Rhode Island College 42; 7. U-Mass Dartmouth 19; 8. Salem State 6; 8. Worcester State 6; 10. Fitchburg State 2.

FIRST: Jess Silva, 400, 59.92; Lis Collins, shot put, 35-10 3/4.
SECOND: Jen Howard, high jump, 4-11 3/4; Abbey Laffond, shot put, 35-8 3/4.
THIRD: Jess Silva, 55 dash, 7.84; KellyRose O'Brien, 600, 1:47.36.
FOURTH; 4 x 200 relay, 1:57.16; 4 x 400 relay, 4:29.57.
FIFTH: Aimee Worcester, 800, 2:36.18; 4 x 800 relay, 11:55.6; Abbey Laffond, 20 lb. weight throw, 40-0.
SIXTH: Jess Silva, 200, 27.67.

Athletes Needed For TEAM READ

The athletics department is looking for student-athletes to volunteer for the TEAM READ community service project. Student-athletes will be serving as "Homework Assistants" at the Westfield Boys and Girls Library on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Nancy Bals, assistant athletics director, is seeking volunteers to work two time slots on those days: 3:30 to 5:30 and 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Nancy can be reached in Ely 246 or at extension 5515.

Westfield State Recognizes National Girls and Women In Sports: "Celebrating 30 Years of Title IX"

Female Athlete Honoree Night

All Westfield State College female varsity athletes were recognized during halftime of last Thursday's women's basketball game in Parenzo Gym. In addition, a National Girls and Women In Sports honoree was chosen from each team and cited during the ceremony. The honorees are:

Basketball - A.J. LaBelle
Cheering (football/basketball) - Erin Leahy
Competition Cheering - Michelle Holland
Cross Country - Starr Hockenberry
Field Hockey - Alison Pratt and Nikki Girolamo
Soccer - Kelly Furlong
Softball - Sarah Kalagher
Swimming - Colleen Boisvert
Track and Field - Jess Silva
Volleyball - Katie Simlick

Get Fit - Stay Fit - Spring Break

This is an incentive proogram for female faculty, staff and students to get fit! Sign up at the Wellness Center, use a fitness partner if you like, and receive prizes. The program has already begun and continues until March 8. Sign up early as participants will be limited to the first 30.

Women, Peace & The Olympic Games

Attend this Guest Lecture Series event and hear speaker Mimi Murray, professor of physical education at Springfield College, on Wednesday, Feb. 20 in the 333 Western Ave. Garden Room at 7:00 p.m.

2001-2002

Basketball Bounces Fitchburg

Men's College Basketball
Westfield 90 - Fitchburg 61

Sophomore reserve guard Leonard Miller recorded 21 points, six assists and three steals, and senior forward Ryan Rea scored an career-high 17 points and grabbed a game-high nine rebounds as the hot-shooting Westfield State College men's basketball team posted a 90-61 victory over undermanned Fitchburg State.

Westfield led 46-30 at halftime, then took a commanding 68-39 lead with 8:58 remaining.

The Owls shot 65 percent from the field in both halves, led by Rea and junior point guard Ethan Slavin. Rea shot 8-for-9 from the field, while Slavin was 7-for-8, including 3-for-3 from three-point range. Slavin finished with 17 points, seven assists and three steals.

Also scoring in double figures with 10 points was junior reserve guard Patrick Luckett of Springfield (Central).

Women's College Basketball
Westfield 66 - Fitchburg 44

Sophomore guard Leslie Cooke scored a career-high 19 points and senior forward A.J. LaBelle had 15 rebounds, 13 points and five assists to power Westfield State to a 66-44 women's basketball victory over Fitchburg.

Feb 2002

Cooke led an Owls three-point barrage as she connected on 5 of 8 attempts from beyond the arc. In addition, she was 4-for-4 from the foul line. Westfield shot 10-for-23 from three-point range, including four three-point baskets from junior guard Brenda Knott, who finished with 16 points and five assists.

The Owls, who also shot well from the foul line (14-for-15), posted the 22-point victory despite only making one field goal in the final 10:30 of the first half. Westfield jumped out to a 24-7 lead midway through the first half, but only led 30-21 at the intermission.

Men's College Basketball
Westfield 100 - Becker 83

WESTFIELD - Junior point guard Ethan Slavin was one of five players in double figures with a career-high 21 points as Westfield State outshot Becker College, 100-83, on Thursday, Feb. 7.

Junior guard Patrick Luckett of Springfield (Central) came off the bench to score 17 points for Westfield, while senior forward Ryan Rea of Winsted, Conn., scored a career-high 16 points. Also scoring in double figures were sophomore guard Leonard Miller (Norwich, Conn.) with 14 points and senior guard Phil Conners (Lowell) with 13.

Ice Hockey Report

Westfield 4 - Drexel 2

PHILADELPHIA - The Westfield State men's hockey team defeated No. 9 nationally ranked ACHA Division I Drexel University, 4-2, on Saturday, Feb. 9.

The Owls jumped out to an early second period 1-0 lead only to see Drexel take a 2-1 edge to start the third. Westfield then scored three unanswered goals in the final stanza.

Scoring for the Owls were Ardjent Kalezic, Marc McGuire, Keith Nadeau, and James Carapella, who got the game-winner. Sophomore Ken Hetzel added two assists.

"It was an ugly win. We played well enough to win," said coach Brian Ward.

Delaware 6 - Westfield 0

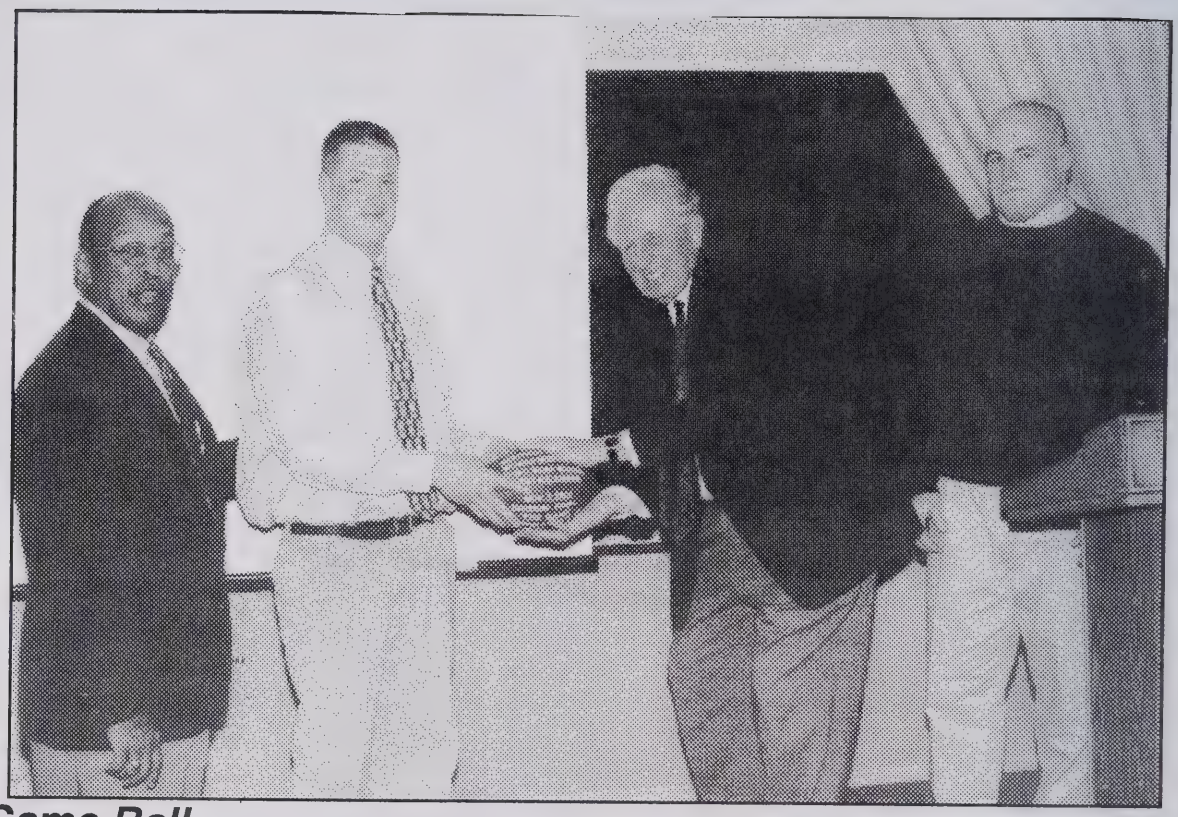
NEWARK, Del. - The No. 2 ACHA Division I nationally ranked University of Delaware men's hockey team skated to a 6-0 victory over Westfield State on Feb. 8.

Delaware jumped out to an early first period 1-0 lead, then did not score again until late in the second period.

Westfield was without top defenseman Kevin Pelkey, due to injury, and offensive standout Ardjent Kalezic. Sophomore goaltender Ardian Kalezic played strong in defeat, stopping 33 shots.

"We just simply ran out of gas. They are a strong club. We just did not have all of the horses we needed," said coach Ward.

2001-2002



Game Ball

-feb. 2002

Loren "Squire" Bressor, chairman of the Westfield State College Athletics Hall of Fame board of the directors, receives from senior captain Tim Corr the ball used in the Owls' 12-0 victory over Nichols College in the New England Football Conference championship game. The game ball will be on display in the Hall of Fame room in the new field house, scheduled to open in January of 2004. Also participating in the game ball presentation are Dr. Arthur Jackson, vice-president of student affairs, and senior captain P.J. Lorentzen. Photo By Mickey Curtis

Owls Edge Worcester In Semifinals

Women's Hoop Falls In Finals

Salem 60 – Westfield State 41

SALEM – Senior Casie Rhodes (East Greenwich, RI) posted game-highs of 14 points and 16 rebounds and junior Edwina Ashe (Lincoln, MA) had 13 points and 15 rebounds to lead Salem State College to a 60-41 victory over Westfield State in the championship game of the Massachusetts State Athletics Conference women's basketball postseason tournament.

Salem, 21-6, received an automatic berth into the NCAA Division III Tournament. It was the 10th straight conference tournament title for the Vikings, and the 12th crown since the tournament began 13 years ago. Westfield, playing in its ninth championship game, finished with a 12-15 record as the No. 3 seed.

Trailing 9-8 with 13:20 left in the first half, Salem went on a 13-1 run over the next eight minutes to take a 21-10 lead. The Vikings led 33-20 at halftime, then put the game out of reach two minutes into the second half by taking a 42-21 advantage.

Both teams were coming off hard-fought victories in Friday night's semifinals and shot poorly from the field and foul line. Westfield was 12 for 53 from the floor (23 percent), including a dismal 2 for 22 from three-point range. Salem shot 31 percent from the field, but the taller Vikings held a 63-41 rebounding edge, including 25 offensive boards.

Junior center Melissa Cote (Feeding Hills) led Westfield with team highs of 14 points and seven rebounds. She scored 12 of the Owls' 20 first-half points.

Senior forward A.J. LaBelle (Ashfield) was in early foul trouble and scored just two points. LaBelle picked up her third foul with 7:24 left in the first half, then was called for an offensive charge 13 seconds into the second half.

Westfield 69 – Worcester 67

SALEM – Junior center Melissa Cote (Feeding Hills) had 19 points and 10 rebounds to lead Westfield State to a thrilling 69-67 come-from-behind overtime victory over Worcester State in the semifinals of the Mass. State Conference basketball tournament.

Westfield trailed for most of the game and drew to within a point four times in second half before sending the game into overtime on a three-point basket by sophomore point guard Leslie Cooke (South Hadley). The clutch trey was well beyond the arc on the right wing and tied the score at 61-61 with 5.7 seconds remaining in regulation.

Worcester State's biggest lead in the second half was 10 points, 49-39, with 10:28 remaining. But the Owls kept battling back sparked by the inside play of Cote, who scored 15 of her team-high 19 points in the final 25 minutes.

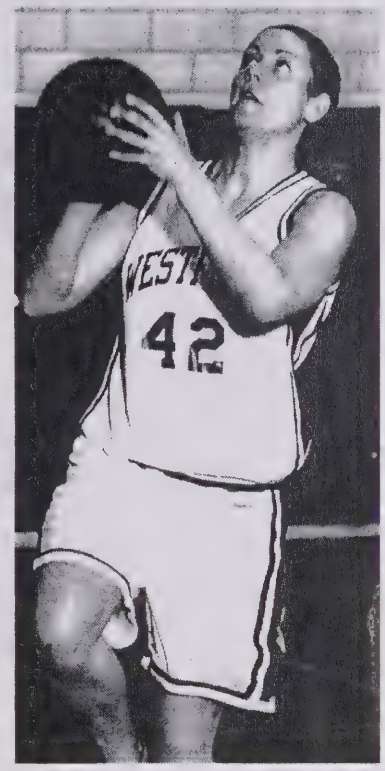
"We never quit," said first-year Westfield State coach Steve Marcil. "We didn't panic and we kept working hard. We refused to roll over.

"Another key factor was that we got the lead in overtime," he added. "It was a good strong team effort."

The Owls outscored Worcester State, 8-4, in the overtime. Cote scored the Owls' first two buckets, but Worcester responded with baskets from freshman Donna Zwembe (Ware) and freshman Rochelle Lavoie (Fall River), who poured in a game-high 25 points.

Westfield senior A.J. LaBelle (Ashfield) made a 15-foot jumper to give Westfield a 67-65 lead with 1:11 remaining. Junior Nicole Sealander (Easthampton) increased the margin to 69-65 on an offensive rebound put back at the 30.1 second mark. Worcester's final points were two free throws by Trish Cushing with 1.6 seconds remaining.

Cooke played all 45 minutes and finished with 14 points, six rebounds, three assists, and no turnovers.



A.J. LaBelle finished her outstanding four-year career with 1,231 points, fifth on the all-time list.

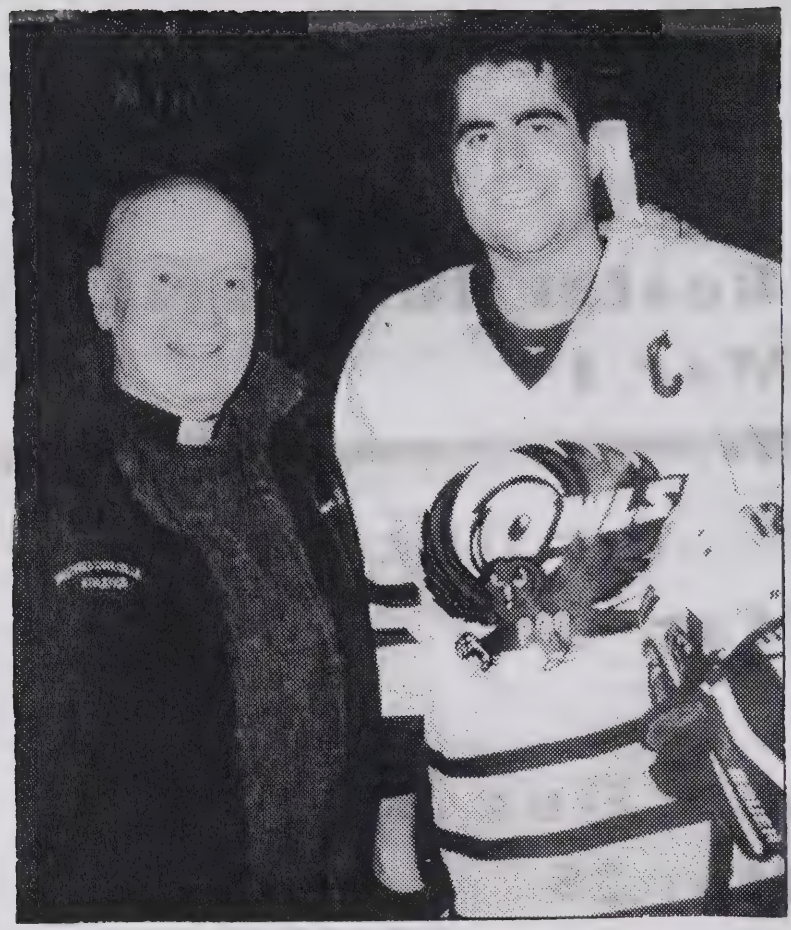
"Cote took over for us and Cooke also gave us a big effort," said Westfield State coach Steve Marcil.

Other major contributors in the Owls' balanced attack were LaBelle and Sealander, each of whom had 12 points and nine rebounds. Junior guard Brenda Knott (Dudley) finished with nine points.

Zwemke was the only other Worcester player in double figures with 11 points. First team all conference selection Lauren Burke finished with nine points and eight rebounds.

"I was very impressed with our defensive effort," said Marcil. "Worcester has two all conference players (Lavoie and Burke) who are excellent scorers. We weren't able to stop them completely but we contained them."

2001-2002



Feb 2002

Father Dean congratulates senior hockey captain Mike Fitzgerald during Westfield State's final home game. Fitzgerald, the Owls' only senior, finished his four-year collegiate career with 27 goals and 36 assists in 84 games. *Photo By John Paulmann*

Ice Hockey Drops Finale

Sienna 4 - Westfield 2

WESTFIELD - The Westfield State College ice hockey team lost to Sienna College, 4-2, in its season finale on Saturday, Feb. 23, at Amelia Park.

The Owls finished with an 8-13-2 record, including a 4-6 home record.

Westfield trailed 4-0 after two periods, then scored twice in the third stanza.

Senior captain Mike Fitzgerald scored in his final game along with Ryan Lawless. Mike Palazzola and Archie Kalezic had assists. Freshman goalie Dustin Durej started the game, but had to leave midway through the second period. He was replaced by Ardy Kalezic, who played a strong game between the pipes.

"We did outplay them the entire third period, along with the last eight minutes of the second period," said coach Brian Ward. "We just did not "cash in". We did not quit and we showed perseverance. That was good to see."

Assumption 8 - Westfield 5

WESTFIELD - Assumption College held on for an 8-5 victory over Westfield State College in ice hockey action on Feb. 20.

Trailing 4-1 after two periods, Westfield closed to within a goal, 5-4, with seven minutes remaining. Assumption responded with three unanswered goals to thwart the comeback bid.

Matt Stone scored a late-game goal for the Owls. Marc McGuire tallied twice, and Mike Palazzola and Archie Kalezic each had a short-handed goal.

Kalezic also had two assists. Recording one assist were: Kevin Pelkey, Ryan Lawless and Alan Donnelly.Goalie Ardy Kalezic stopped 35 shots in defeat

Sports

Feb 2002

LaBelle, Knott, Conners Selected All-Conference

Three Westfield State College players were selected to the 2002 Massachusetts State Athletics Conference All-MASCAC basketball teams.

Senior forward A.J. LaBelle of Ashfield (Mohawk Trail Regional) was a first team selection, while junior guard Brenda Knott of Dudley (Sheperd Hill Regional) and senior guard Phil Conners of Lowell were second team picks.

LaBelle is a three-time all-conference selection. She was a first-team pick during her sophomore season, when she scored a season-best 387 points, and a second-team pick last year.

LaBelle led the Owls this season in scoring (12.0 points per game) and steals (2.1) and was second in rebounding (7.3). She finished her fine four-year collegiate career with 1,231 points to rank fifth on the all-time Westfield State women's list.

Knott was second on the team in scoring (10.6 points per game) and assists (2.4). She led the team in free throw shooting (76 percent) and was first in the conference in three-point baskets made with 57 in 27 games played.

Conners averaged 8.2 points per game while earning a starting berth midway thru the season. He had some big performances during conference action, including a career-high 25 points vs. Massachusetts College, and 19 points, including a 5-for-5 effort from three-point range, vs. Bridgewater State.

Conners finished his four-year collegiate career with 643 points and 116 3-point baskets. He shot 76 percent (135 for 173) from the foul line.

Four Owls Earn All New England Track Honors

Four members of the Westfield State College indoor track and field team earned All New England honors at the New England Division III championships.

In the women's meet, sophomore Jess Silva of Reading finished sixth in the 400 meter dash with a time of 59.9. Placing eighth was sophomore Abbey Laffond of Athol with a school record toss of 39-2 in the shot put. Laffond had previously set the school record on Feb. 2 with a heave of 37-5.

In the men's meet, junior Ryan Fregeau of Athol finished eighth in the 200 meter dash with a time of 23.19. Fregeau had the second best time in the preliminary heat with a 22.61 clocking.

Finishing seventh was junior Josh Lewbel of Middlebury, Conn., in the long jump (6.31 meters).

Junior Tom Gilbert of Amherst High School just missed earning All New England honors as he placed ninth in the shot put (13.74 meters). In addition, he finished 12th in the 20-pound weight throw.

New England Swim Results

TEAM SCORING: 1. Bentley 912; 2. Keene State 857; 3. Brandeis 596; 4. Mass Dartmouth 546; 5. Simmons 496; 6. Gordon 443; 7. Plymouth State 394; 8. St. Michaels 352; 9. Bridgewater State 343; 10. Eastern Connecticut 305; 11. Western New England 228.5; 12. Westfield State 228; 13. St. Joseph's, Conn. 192; 14. Regis 125; 15. Norwich 84; 16. Elms 42; 17. Colby-Sawyer 36; 18. Salem State 21.

SIXTH: Kelley Reardon, one-meter diving, 289.4 points; Kelley Reardon, three-meter diving, 301.5 points.

NINTH: Nicole Spataro, 100 backstroke, 1:08.20.

10TH: Kim MacKenzie, 50 breastroke, 36.61; Kristie Webster, 200 individual medley, 2:32.03.

11TH: 400 medley relay (Jenny Gilbert, Kim MacKenzie, Nicole Spataro, Heather Nelson), 4:40.64. 800 freestyle relay (Nicole Acheson, Nicole Spataro, Kristie Webster, Heather Nelson), 9:03.28.

12TH: Jenny Gilbert, 50 backstroke, 32.67; Dana LedDuke, 50 butterfly, 29.81; 200 medley relay (Jenny Gilbert, Kim MacKenzie, Dana LedDuke, Heather Nelson), 2:08.66. 400 freestyle relay (Nicole Spataro, Colleen Boisvert, Nicole Acheson, Heather Nelson), 4:09.15.

Mass. State Conference Smith Cup Standings

After Winter Sports Season

Place	School	Points	Possible Points	%
1st	Westfield	25.5	48	.531
2nd	Bridgewater	21	48	.438
3rd	Worcester	20	54	.370
4th	Salem	16	48	.333
5th	Mass College	8	36	.222
6th	Framingham	9	54	.167
7th	Fitchburg	8.5	54	.157
8th	Mass Maritime	0	24	.000

2001-2002

2001-2002

Westfield State Student-Athletes To Assist Youth With Reading Program

March 2002

Westfield State College varsity student-athletes will be available to assist area youth as homework assistants at the Westfield Anthenaeum Boys and Girls Library on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. from March 19 thru April 24.

Entitled TEAM READ by the college athletics department, the program is made possible by a grant received from the NCAA and Verizon to the Westfield State College CHAMPS/Life Skills program.

The goal of "Verizon Reads with the NCAA" initiative is to reduce the illiteracy rate of youth in communities across America by using college student-athletes as leaders, educators and role models.

Verizon is one company that has made a significant commitment to literacy through the Verizon Reads program. As an NCAA corporate partner, Verizon donated $50,000 to the NCAA's Literacy Fund for 10 institutions, among them Westfield State, to each receive a $5,000 literacy grant.

"This is an excellent program for the student-athletes to be involved with," said Westfield State assistant athletics director Nancy Bals, who is coordinating the TEAM READ program. "For the student-athletes to help reduce the illiteracy rate of youth in our community by being leaders, educators and role models is a perfect fit for us."

Approximately eight to 10 students are serving two-hour shifts as homework assistants at the library. In addition, the student-athletes will be assisting the Anthenaeum with other programs during April school vacation week.

"We are very excited to have the athletics department help by being homework assistants," said Mary Ann Tourjee, the new librarian at the Boys and Girls Library. "This is a wonderful partnership."

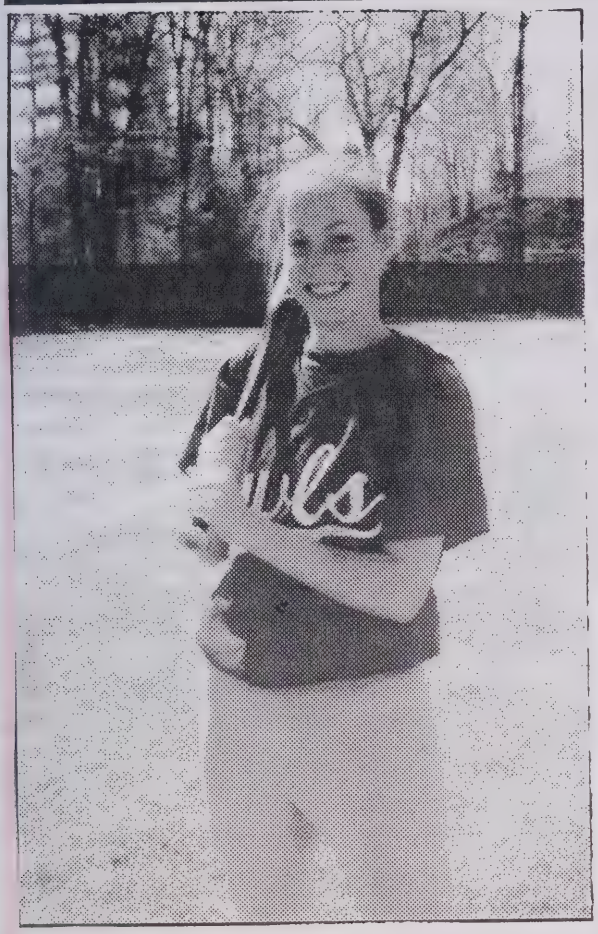
In addition, three student-athletes are reading tutors for an after school program for third graders at Mosley Elementary School, with assistance from school principal John Gibbons and Martha Roman, the school's primary literacy coordinator.

"The Westfield State students take snacks for the students, a book to read to the students, then hear the students read aloud. They will talk about the stories and work on reading comprehension," said Bals.

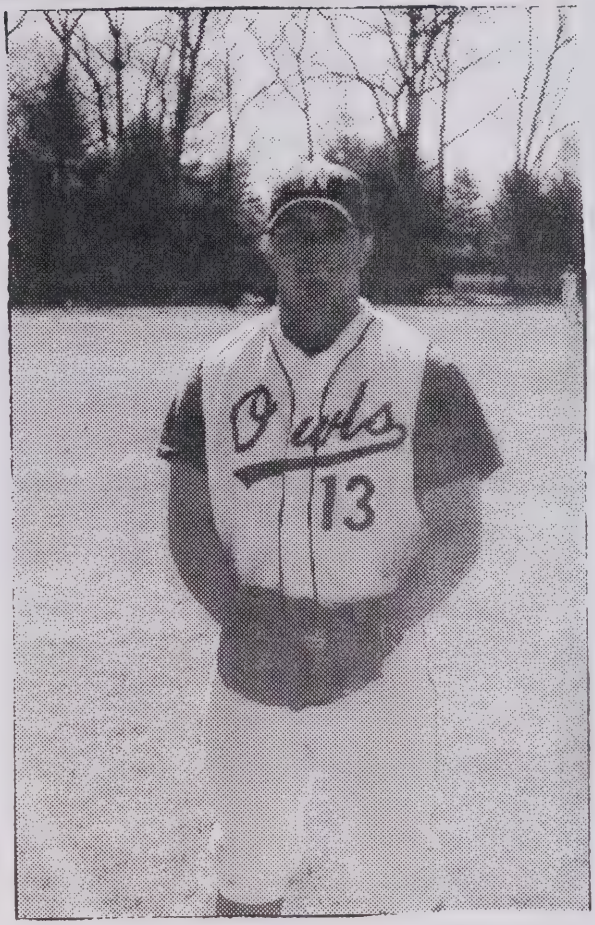
Three Westfield State student-athletes also volunteer at the Chester Elementary School, where Westfield State field hockey head coach Heather Cabral is a teacher and the school's literacy coordinator.

The Verizon/NCAA grant of $5,000 is used for transportation of the student-athletes to the three sites, snacks for the kids, publicity materials, and giveaways to promote literacy (bookmarks, pencils, stickers, temporary tatoos).

2001 - 2002



Westfield State sophomore first baseman Kate Pomerleau was named to the Mass. State Conference softball weekly honor roll. Pomerleau batted .320 during the Owls' Florida trip, with eight RBI, a double, and a home run. The softball team posted a 4-5-1 record in Fort Myers.



Westfield State sophomore desingated hitter Bobby Negron was named to the Mass. State Conference baseball weekly honor roll. Negron batted .400, with seven RBI, four doubles and a triple. The Owls posted a 3-8 record in Florida, including two one-run losses and a pair of two-run setbacks.

2001 - 2002

Sports

March 2002

Westfield State Ice Hockey Denied Varsity Status

The commonwealth of Massachusetts' constant budget announcements of "doom and gloom" took another casualty, as this time a Westfield State College sports team has been denied a return to full varsity status.

The Westfield State administration has announced that the college ice hockey team, which was poised to make the jump back to full NCAA varsity status this year, will have to remain a "club" team for the next two years because of the tremendous budget cuts the college has had to make this year, along with the funding reduction being forecasted for the next two years.

Westfield State College athletics director Ken Magarian stated that he plans to keep the hockey program operating the way it has the past two years: as a club program in name only, but run like a varsity team.

Hockey Coach Resigns

Brian Ward has announced his resignation as Westfield State ice hockey head coach due to the decision of the college not being able to advance the hockey program from club back to varsity status as it was up until 1989.

Ward cited his time and effort as being exhausted in hopes that the program would make the jump to NCAA varsity status. Futhermore, he stated that he is no longer able to coach as this level if the team remained club, and he is disappointed that the economic woes of the commonwealth denied the team varsity status for at least the next two years.

Westfield State athletics director Ken Magarian praised Ward for the outstanding work he did the past four years to get the program back to varsity level.

"We will miss Brian and hate to see him go, but at the same time we understand," said Magarian. "All of us are very disappointed we can't return hockey to varsity status, but I know this is particularly devastating to Coach Ward.

"The program will go on, though, and a new coach will be named shortly," Magarian added. "We have a great group of young men here and new recruits will be coming next fall."

2001-2002

Students, Coach Nominated For Leadership Conference

March 2002

Two Westfield State College student-athletes and an athletics department staff member have been nominated to participate in the inaugural NCAA Division III Student-Athlete Regional Leadership Conference.

The conference is scheduled for Nov. 8-10, 2002, at the Hyatt Harborside Hotel in Boston. Representing Westfield State will be Lou Ann Simchak, head softball coach and intramurals supervisor; freshman baseball player Mason Keith of Oneco, Conn., and sophomore track and field athlete Jess Silva of Reading, Mass.

The regional conference was created by the NCAA Division III initiatives task force to prepare student-athletes for leadership in a dynamic and diverse society.

The conference will be modeled after the NCAA's national Foundation Leadership Conference designed to encourage student-athletes to become confident change agents on their campuses and in their communities.

In addition to the student participants, athletics directors were encouraged to nominate an athletics administrator or coach who will attend and facilitate critical dialogue and create the partnerships that are needed to impact positive change at the campus, conference, and divisional levels.

Student participants will develop leadership skills, build rapport with their peers, and address specific Division III issues. Once participants return to campus they will implement a team directed action plan created at the regional conference.

"We are very pleased that the NCAA is offering the Division III student-athlete regional leadership conference," said Westfield State assistant athletics director Nancy Bals. "The student-athletes will return to campus with lots of energy and ideas. These students will address student-athlete issues as members of the 2002-2003 Westfield State Student-Athlete Advisory Board, and we look forward to their contributions."

Health Fair Held During 'A Week Celebrating Women 2002'

Westfield State College movement science professors Holly Noun and Dave Laing read brochures that were available at the Health Fair held Wednesday, March 20, in the Ely Campus Center. The Health Fair was held in conjunction with Westfield State's "A Week Celebrating Women": March 20-27. The fair was a fun and an interesting way to learn about fitness, nutrition, and mental and physical well-being.

2001-2002

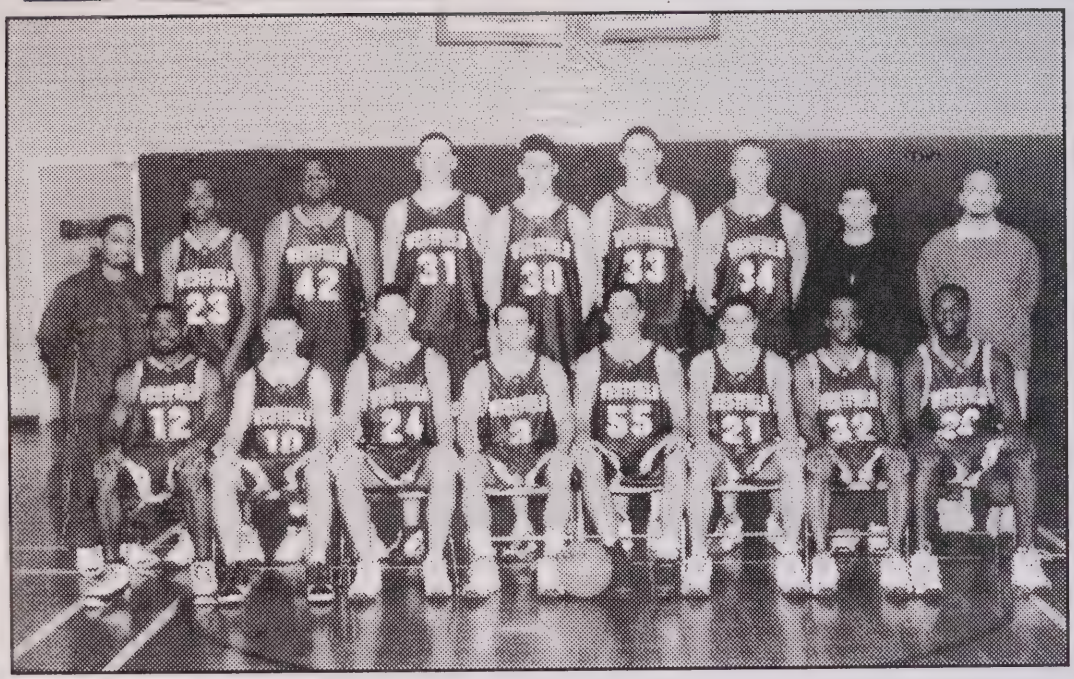
April 2002

Competition Cheering Squad

First Row (L-R): Jessica Alvarez, Stasi Randall, Michelle Holland, Danielle Imprescia, Kristina Wood, Erin Fitzgerald .
Second row: Trisha Stickney, Emily Hartley, Melissa Fitzgerald, Becca Howes, Armanda Sasso, Holly Schmedding, Sarah Manley.
Third row: Paul Bradfield, Michael Meechin, Arvid Tenney, Dan Sirois.

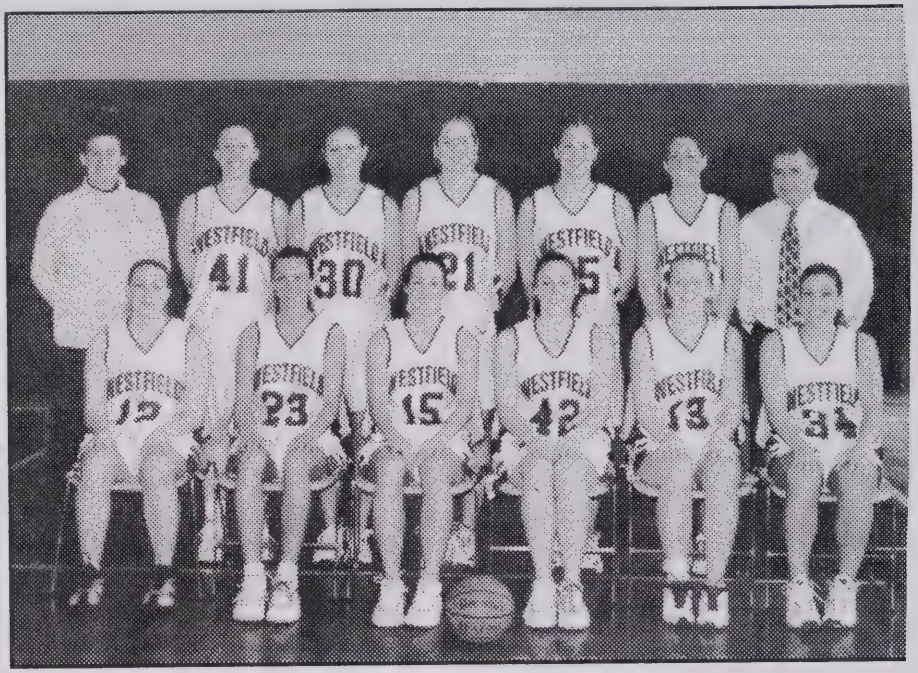
Swimming & Diving Team

First Row (L-R): Kelley Reardon, Dana LedDuke.
Second Row: Courtney Burden, Cathleen Clough, Becky Sirota, Elizabeth Predella, Heather Nelson, Jenny Gilbert, Kim MacKenzie, Erin Flynn, Jessica St. Pierre.
Third Row: head coach Dave Laing, Clare Cournoyer, Nicole Acheson, Kate Denneen, Katie Abare, Carman Wegman, Nicole Spataro, Colleen Boisvert, Kristie Webster, Rob Barabani, Scott Munroe. Missing are Heather Perreault and assistant coach Sue Parker.



Men's Basketball Team

First Row (L-R):Bryant James, Ethan Slavin, Phil Conners, Chris Caputo, Ryan Rea, Leonard Miller, Patrick Luckett, Aboubacar Gassama.
Second row: assistant coach Stephen Boykin, Allen Murray, Rich Pyle, Eric Gonynor, Vaso Jaukovic, Chris Gonynor, Brian Matuszko, head coach Rich Sutter, assistant coach Junior Delgado.



Women's Basketball Team

First Row (L-R): Brenda Knott, Tara Minishak, Michaela Blaney, A.J. LaBelle, Leslie Cooke. Rebecca Rodrigues.
Second row: assistant coach Holly McGovern, Nicole Sealander, Jamie Bielonko, Melissa Cote, Alissa Tedesco, Shannon Dunlavey, head coach Steve Marcil.
Photos By Mickey Curtis

April 2002

2001-2002

2001-2002

Athletes Honored For Academic Excellence

April 2002

By Mickey Curtis, SID

One hundred and thirteen (113) Westfield State College students have been recognized as scholar-athletes for completing the 2001 fall semester with cumulative grade point averages of 3.0 or better.

The 3.0 Club represents approximately 37 percent of the student-athletes at Westfield State College. In addition, 43 percent of the student-athletes (130 of 305) earned a 3.0 or better semester grade point average.

"We are very proud of all our student-athletes; the way they perform on the playing fields and in the classroom," said Westfield State athletics director Ken Magarian. "I would especially like to thank the faculty, staff and coaches for their support and guidance."

The 3.0 Club students will be honored Wednesday evening, April 10, at 6:30 p.m. at the fifth annual athletics academic reception in Scanlon Hall. The honorees will have an opportunity to invite one of their professors to the reception as their special guests.

The football team leads the way with 18 scholar-athletes followed by men's track and field (12), women's track and field (12), women's cross country (9), and men's soccer (9).

For the third straight year, the women's cross country team racked up the most impressive grades. The team's cumulative GPA was 3.19, followed by the athletic trainers (3.03), field hockey team (3.0), and women's basketball (2.95).

The following is a sport-by-sport breakdown of Westfield State's scholar-athletes:

Baseball (5) Tim Barry, Jeff Bolduc, Sean Couillard, Mason Keith, Kyle Piazza.

Competitition Cheering (7) Jessica Alvarez, Erin Fitzgerald, Emily Hartley, Sarah Manley, Dan Sirois, Arvid Tenney, Kristina Wood.

Men's Basketball (5) Phil Conners, Aboubacar Gassama, Vaso Jaukovic, Ryan Rea, Ethan Slavin.

Women's Basketball (6) Michaela Blaney, Leslie Cooke, Melissa Cote, Shannon Dunlavey, Rebecca Rodrigues, Alissa Tedesco.

Men's Cross Country (4) Tom Bousquet, Nick Burke, Stephen Cole, Matt Frederick.

Women's Cross Country (9) Catie Geldert, Laura Hurley, Erica Mellone, Melinda Nikola, Miranda Osgood, Alyssa Reid, Bonnie Starsiak, Jennifer Stryer, Bridgette Vacanti.

Field Hockey (9) Nikki Britton, Sadie Driscoll, Julieann Flynn, Renee Gahan, Meghan Perreault, Teri Phipps, Laura Scott, Stephanie Smith, Theresa Yacovone.

Football (18) Chris Brown, Steven Brown, John Cloutier, Dave Duquette, David Eaton, Stevie Faniel, Jessie Holmes, Mark Howard, Mike Hurteau, Shawn Lyman, Brian Mazzone, Chris Mulligan, Kyle Piazza, Mike Schieb, Patrick Swett, Dave Trueira, Jesse Winters, Matt Wooliver.

Women's Soccer (8) Melissa Albano, Sara Barrows, Kelly Furlong, Jenn Hendry, Michelle Montvitt, Katie O'Brien, Erin Reim, Liz Turini.

Men's Soccer (9) D.J. Conway, Peter Fager, Brian Ginisi, James Payne, Tyler Roy, Pat Smith, Andrew Thompson, Andy Tighe, Jon Witowski.

Softball (8) Nikki Benson, Sarah Kalagher, Liza Oliveira, Meghan Perreault, Leah Peterson, Kate Pomerleau, Suzie Scott, Abby Wrinn.

Women's Swimming and Diving (7) Colleen Boisvert, Kate Denneen, Erin Flynn, Heather Nelson, Heather Perreault, Jessica St. Pierre, Kristie Webster.

Men's Track and Field (12) Greg Aucoin, Tom Bousquet, Nick Burke, David Eaton, Vinny Ferrecchia, Matt Frederick, Greg Haskell, Salim Ibrahim, Peter King, Josh Lewbel, Kyle Piazza Luis Torres.

Women's Track and Field (11 Kate Burke, Laureen D'Amato, Catie Geldert, Shannon Goff, Jen Howard Sue Lynch, Jess Silva, Stephanie Smith Jennifer Stryer, Jackie Vautour, Tiar Wilmot.

Trainers (5) Glenn Barbour, Christine Bolte, Lisa D'Amato, Michael Hal Tara Schuler

Women's Volleyball (6) Kriss Green, Sarah Lund, Jenn Phillion, Leal Schmidt, Katie Simlick, Andrea Tessier

April 2002

Track and Field Results

RPI Invitational - at Troy, N.Y.,
MEN'S TEAM STANDINGS: 1. RPI 237; 2. Springfield 235; 3. Westfield 51; 4. Oswego State 39.
SECOND: Peter King, discus, 134-4.
THIRD: Greg Aucoin, 100, 11.3; Greg Aucoin, 200, 22.7; Mat LeMaire, 110 hurdles, 16.2; Chris Hume, 400 hurdles, 57.4; Vinny Ferrecchia, javelin, 175-1.
FOURTH: David Eaton, 400, 51.9.
FIFTH: Tom Bousquet, 1500, 4:09.9; Marco Iannello, 3000 steeplechase, 10:52.6; Chris Allie, long jump, 20-1/4; Tom Gilbert, shot put, 44-3 1/2.
SIXTH: Ryan Fregeau, 400, 52.6; Nick Irving, 3000 steeplechase, 10:59.6; Peter King, shot put, 44-2.
WOMEN'S TEAM STANDINGS: 1. RPI 219; 2. Springfield 200; 3. Oswego State 105; 4. Westfield State 54.
FIRST: Abbey Laffond, javelin, 125-4; Jen Howard, high jump, 5-0.
SECOND: Abbey Laffond, discus, 101-1.
THIRD: Abbey Laffond, shot put, 38-3/4; Vicki Hood, javelin, 112-9.
FOURTH: Abbey Laffond, hammer, 119-1.
FIFTH: Jess Silva, 800, 2:30.1; Catie Geldert, 3000 meter run, 12:04; Jess Silva, long jump, 15-3 1/2.

2001 FOOTBALL
DIVISION CHAMPIONS
MASCAC CHAMPIONS
NEW ENGLAND FOOTBALL CONFERENCE CHAMPS
10 - 0 - 0
RANKED #1 IN NEW ENGLAND
NCAA EAST REGIONAL TOURNAMENT

Westfield State Football Championship T-Shirts On Sale In Ely 244 For $13

Softball Shuts Out Elms, 6-0

CHICOPEE - Freshman catcher Liz Oliveira (Fall River/ Bishop Connolly) drove in three runs with a double and a single to lead the Westfield State softball team to a 6-0 victory over Elms College on Tuesday, April 2.

It was the fourth straight shutout victory for the Owls, who improved to 10-6-1. Elms is 3-8.

Oliveira pounded a runscoring double in Westfield's two-run first inning, then ripped a two-run single in the third.

Sophomore third baseman Jenn Koziol of Southwick was 2 for 3 with two runs scored in the Owls' nine-hit attack.

Freshman Leah Peterson was the winning pitcher with relief help from Sarah Simmons, who earned a save by getting out of a bases-loaded jam in the fifth inning.

Westfield Baseball Splits With Salem In Conference Opener

WESTFIELD - Westfield State and Salem State split a double header in college baseball action.

Westfield blasted 16 hits in winning the first game, 12-7. Salem received a strong pitching performance Mike Cornacchini to take the nightcap, 4-0.

It was the Mass. State Conference openers for both teams: Westfield is 4-10 overall and Salem is 10-4.

Westfield scored in each of its at bats in the opener. Salem scored four runs in the top of the sixth to close to within two, 8-6, but the Owls responded with four runs in the home half of the inning.

Leadoff hitter Corey Scafidi was 4 for 5 for Westfield with two RBI. Senior catcher Ray McPeck of Brockton was 3 for 4 with two RBI. Matt Larabee of Chesire was 2 for 4 with a double, triple and two RBI.

Freshman Tom Cousineau notched the pitching victory, while sophomore Ryan Salvador of Ludlow recorded a pitching save.

In the second game, Cornacchini twirled a three-hit shutout while striking out eight and walking two.

Scafidi was the starting and losing pitcher for Westfield. He gave up a two-run double in the third inning to shortstop Dave Scioli. Salem added two runs in the fifth, including an RBI double by Scioli.

Freshman Shaun Geary pounded a double for Westfield.

Eastern Conn. 14 - Westfield 1

WILLIMANTIC, Conn. - The Eastern Connecticut baseball - ranked first in New England and 11th in the nation - team rolled to a 14-1 victory over Westfield State on Tuesday, April 2.

Eastern Connecticut upped its record to 14-3-1, while the Owls dropped to 4-11.

Eastern Connecticut scored three runs in both the first and second innings, and led 10-0 after five innings. The Warriors belted 13 hits, including two homers and three doubles, and drew 11 walks.

Eastern's two pitchers allowed four hits and two walks while striking out 13.

2001 - 2002

2001-2002

Westfield State softball coach Lou Ann Simchak instructs her team following one of its spring trip games in Fort Myers, Florida, in early March. The Owls had posted a 10-6-1 record, including four straight shutout victories heading into this past weekend's games vs. Mass Maritime. *Mickey Curtis Photo*

april 2002

Softball Team Has Bright Future

By Darcie Smalley

With a team dominated by new faces, the Westfield State softball season began with a degree of uncertainty.

The eight freshmen and 11 returning players, led by head coach Lou Ann Simchak, headed off to Fort Myers, Fla., over spring break. After being forced indoors because of bad weather during preseason, the team was about to experience a totally new environment.

Facing teams from all over the country, including Indiana, Michigan, Maine, Pennsylvania, and Kentucky, the sweltering outdoor conditions contributed in a total record of 4 wins, 5 losses, and 1 tie. To the team's surprise they even had the opportunity to be matched up with and defeat conference rival Salem State, 6-5.

The new players on the team are: sophomore Jenn Koziol and freshmen Amanda Fregeau, Casey Greggo, Leah Peterson, Liz Oliveira, Nikki Benson, Abby Wrinn, Noelle Berard, and Cait Driscoll.

All of their roles have proven to be very important, as last year's graduates left open positions at the critical spots of first, third, and center field. With five0 of these new players starting, the young team has unnamed potential for growth.

Coach Simchak reported that defense has been a weak point. Since practice has recently become more feasible outdoors, this is an area which is now receiving more attention.

Strengths, on the other hand, have shined through with excellent stealing and hitting. Hitting well thus far have been: junior Tasha Goulet, sophomore B.J. Dion, Oliveria, junior Kate Pomerleau, Koziol, and Sarah Kalagher, the team's only senior.

Speed has also been a key factor in their game with much success in stealing.

Other contributions on and off the field have been made by the No. 2 pitcher Sarah Simmons, second basemen Meghan Perreault, junior Michelle Prall, sophomore Suzie Scott, sophomore Nelly Pelletier, junior pitcher Erin Stawarz, and sophomore pitcher Christina D'Ambrosio..

Currently the team has played 17 games with a winning record o 10-6-1. Coach Simchak attributed some of this success to the out standing leadership of Kalagher As the team captain, No. 1 pitche and cleanup hitter, she has been an inspiration to her young team.

"She is a great player and a great human being; she has the best leadership of any student I have coached before," said Simchak.

The team's future appears very bright.

Following the recent and devastating loss of teammate and close friend Phanessa Fisher, the team plan is to take things one day at a time. With a new appreciation for life, they aim to have fun and maintain respect for each other as one working unit.

2001-2002

Provost Named New Hockey Coach

April 2002

Sean Provost has been named the new men's ice hockey head coach at Westfield State College.

Provost has been coaching in the Pioneer Valley for the past nine years, including stints as an assistant coach of the New England Junior Coyotes in Enfield, Conn.; head coach of the Connecticut Clippers in Cromwell, Conn., and as an assistant coach of the Springfield Cathedral JV team from 1995-1997. In addition, he also has worked as an instructor at the Gary Wright Hockey School in Springfield.

Sean Provost

Provost, a 1984 graduate of Spingfield Classical High School, is a USA Hockey certified advanced instructor. He played four years of college hockey at Postdam State in New York, where he graduated from in 1990 with an economics degrees.

Provost is currently the president of TAM Sports Enterprises, LLC in Agawam.

"Overall, I am very impressed with Sean," said Westfield State athletics director Ken Magarian. "He has been highly recommended and has outstanding coaching credentials."

"I'm pretty excited about getting this coaching position," said Provost. "Coaching at Westfield State is a perfect fit for me, and I've wanted to be a head coach again."

Hockey Voted Into League

Athletics director Ken Magarian was notified this week that the Westfield State College men's ice hockey Team was voted into the highly competitive Super East Collegiate Hockey League (SECHL).

Westfield was the only college selected out of seven that applied for membership this year. Commissioner Kent Rinehart made the announcement after a special conference call of the members.

Included in the Super East League are: Siena University, Marist College, New York University, Montclair State, SUNY-Albany, Central Connecticut State University and SUNY-Stony Brook.

The eight-team league plays mostly Division I teams in the Northeast. The top six schools qualify for the season-ending playoffs in February, and also have the opportunity to play for divisional and national championships with the American Collegiate Hockey Association (ACHA), a national collegiate hockey conference.

"This league will be very good for our hockey program," said Westfield State head coach Sean Provost. "When you're in a league you have something to play for and are able to set goals."

Westfield State was just recently turned down by the senior administration of the college to return back to the ECAC/NCAA varsity level because of severe budget cutbacks throughout the commonwealth. The program, under the direction of the department of athletics, will request a return to full varsity status within two years.

The entire Westfield team, except for senior Mike Fitzgerald, will be returning for the 2002-03 season. There are also reportedly other hockey players on campus who have decided to try out for the program, as well as at least seven known hockey recruits coming next fall.

A new Westfield State College Alumni Hockey Committee is being formed at this time to support the hockey program and assist its return to varsity status. Heading the committee is Westfield State Hall of Fame inductee Jim Collins, who is the college's all-time leading scorer and was a co-captain of the Westfield State team that won the ECAC Division II Championship in 1977-78. Collins is the current head hockey coach at Reading, Mass., High School.

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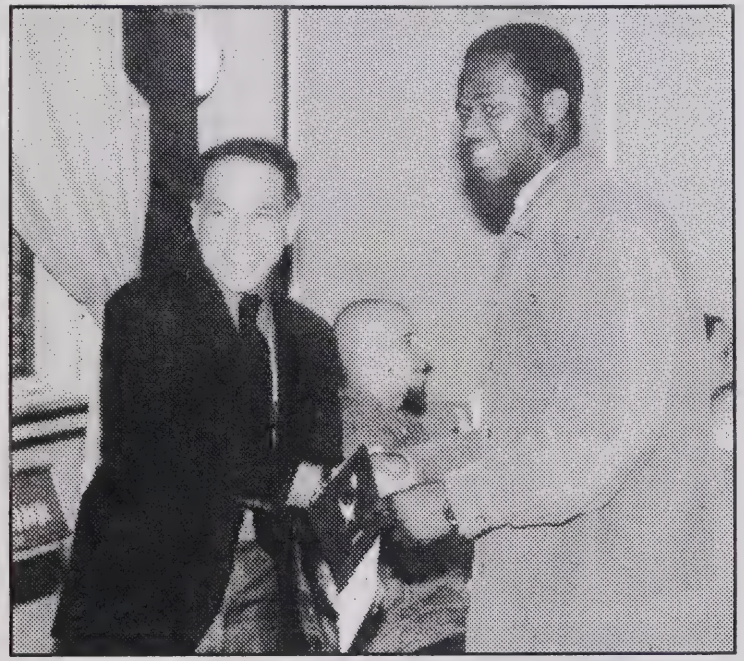


Aboubacar Gassama - sophomore member of the Westfield State men's basketball team - receives a certificate from athletics director Ken Magarian during last Wednesday's fifth annual athletics academic reception. A total of 113 student-athletes were recognized as scholar-athletes for completing the fall semester with cumulative GPAs of 3.0 or better. The 3.0 Club represents approximately 37 percent of the Westfield State student-athletes. *Mickey Curtis Photo*

Softball Records Big Victory

WESTFIELD - Western Connecticut State University and Westfield State College split a softball doubleheader on Tuesday, April 9. Western Connecticut took the first game, 8-1, while Westfield won the nightcap, 2-1.

Western Connecticut is now 12-4, while Westfield moved to 13-6-1.

Westfield scrapped for a pair of runs in the second game to salvage the split. The Owls tied the score in the fourth when Amanda Fregeau led off with a walk, was sacrificed to second by Noelle Berard, moved to third on a wild pitch, then scored on Tasha Goulet's groundout.

The Owls collected their only two hits of the game in the fifth inning when they scored an unearned run.

Kate Pomerleau led off with a single up the middle and moved to second on a one-out single by Casey Greggo. Michelle Prall then hit a slow roller in front of the plate that was fielded by Western Connecticut's catcher, who overthrew the ball at third base in attempting to get the forceout, allowing Pomerleau to score.

Westfield State No. 1 pitcher Sarah Kalagher improved to 6-2 and lowered her ERA to 0.50 despite walking five, including three in the fourth inning. Kalagher gave up four hits and no earned runs and struck out one.

In the first game, Western broke open the game by scoring twice in the third inning and five runs in the fourth.

Fregeau pounded a double for one of Westfield's five hits. Goulet rapped an RBI single in the sixth inning.

Owls Sweep Mass Maritime

WESTFIELD - The Westfield State College softball team swept Mass Maritime Academy, 17-0 and 5-3, on Saturday, April 6.

Westfield blasted 15 hits in the opener in recording its fifth straight shutout victory. Freshman shortstop Amanda Fregeau of Athol was 3 for 3 with a double and four RBI. Cait Driscoll and Meghan Perreault both rapped two singles. Noelle Berard and Kate Pomerleau pounded back-to-back triples in the Owls' five-run first inning.

Sarah Simmons and Christina D'Ambrosio combined to toss a five-inning no-hitter for Westfield. Simmons threw the first four innings, striking out six and walking one.

In the second game, junior designated hitter Tasha Goulet of Worcester (Doherty) led the Owls. Goulet was 2 for 2 with a double and three RBI, and delivered the game-winning hit, a two-run single in the second inning to snap a 2-2 tie.

Westfield only collected five hits, including two singles by Nelly Pelletier.

Junior Erin Stawarz of Westfield (Southwick High School) pitched the first five innings to record the victory. Sarah Kalagher picked up the pitching save.

Track and Field Results

Trinity Invitational - Hartford, Conn., April 6, 2002

MEN'S TEAM STANDINGS: No team scores were kept.

FIRST: Ryan Fregeau, 100, 11.09.
SECOND: Ryan Fregeau, 200, 22.73; Stanley Pa'u, shot put, 46-3 3/4.
THIRD: Chris Hume, 400 hurdles, 57.82; 4 x 100 relay, 44.01.
FOURTH: Chris Allie, triple jump, 41-10 1/4; Pete King, discus, 126-11.
FIFTH: Mat LeMaire, 110 hurdles, 16.32; Tom Gilbert, shot put, 42-8 1/2.
SEVENTH: Greg Aucoin, 100, 11.46; Chris Hume, 110 hurdles, 16.52; Chris Allie, long jump, 18-3; Pete King, shot put, 41-10; Stanley Pa'u, discus, 121-6; Stanley Pa'u, hammer, 133-1.
EIGHTH: Mat LeMaire, 400 hurdles, 1:01.16; Greg Haskell, javelin, 144-1.
NINTH: Tom Gilbert, hammer, 124-11.

Trinity Invitational - Hartford, Conn., April 6, 2002

WOMEN'S TEAM STANDINGS: No team scores were kept.

FIRST: Jen Howard, high jump, 5-2; Abbey Laffond, javelin, 122-6.
SECOND: Abbey Laffond, discus, 112-11; Vicki Hood, javelin, 113-2.
FOURTH: 4 x 400 relay, 4:29.94.
EIGHTH: Abbey Laffond, hammer, 111-5.
NINTH: Jess Silva, long jump, 15-2 1/4.

First Annual Nestor Cup

Sponsored By SAAB (Student-Athlete Advisory Board)

Spring Weekend, Sunday, April 21, Campus Green, 1:30 to 4:30

Free refreshments and campus-wide activities open to all! Eight people per team (4 males/4 females) competing for prizes in the following events: ultimate frisbee, dizzy ball, tug-of-war, beach volleyball, dodgeball, relays, and mental challenge. Tickets ($1 per person) and rosters can be picked up in Ely 244.

2001 - 2002

2001-2002

Westfield State head baseball coach John Griffin, center, meets with his players following one of their spring break games that was played at the Boston Red Sox training facilities in Fort Myers, Fla. *Mickey Curtis Photo*

Baseball Splits With Mass Maritime

WESTFIELD - George Scharrenweber threw a no-hitter to lead Mass Maritime Academy to a 3-0 victory and a doubleheader split with Westfield State College in Mass. State Conference baseball action on Saturday, April 6.

The Westfield State bats weren't silent in the first game as the Owls belted 14 hits in a 7-1 victory over Mass. Maritime. Both teams own 2-2 conference records. Mass Maritime is 9-6 overall and Westfield is 5-13.

Scharrenweber did not have overpowering stuff but he kept Westfield off balance with an assortment of pitches. The 6-2, 180-pound junior from Salisbury, Mass., (Newburyport High School) walked two, hit a batter, and struck out five.

Scharrenweber recorded 12 outs on flyouts, including eight to the outfield.

Westfield junior Corey Scafidi was the tough-luck loser for the fourth time this season. He allowed five hits and struck out three.

In the opener, Westfield State received an outstanding pitching performance of its own from freshman Tom Cousineau of Worcester (Burncoat). Cousineau tossed a three-hitter, striking out five and walking two. His shutout attempt was foiled in the sixth inning when Mass Maritime scored an unearned run.

Every starter hit safely in the Owls' 14-hit barrage. Freshman third baseman Shaun Geary of Mashpee was 2 for 3 with two doubles and four RBI. Senior Ray McPeck of Brockton was 3 for 3 with a triple and an RBI. Tim Cadman and Bolduc both rapped two singles.

2001-2002

WESTFIELD STATE BASEBALL TEAM: First row, left to right: Corey Scafidi, Joe Baldyga, Mike Carney, Matt Larabee, Brian Contenta, J.T. Taylor, Ray McPeck. Second row: Mike Diehl, Sean Couillard, Bill Gaine, Mike McCleary, Steve Patterson, Tim Cadman, Tom Cousineau, Mason Keith, Matt Gurley. Third row: head coach John Griffin, Jeff Bolduc, Jared Seltzer, Aaron Belanger, Nate Hall, Ryan Dunnigan, Brett Ford, Tim Barry, Matt McMillan, Shaun Geary, Ryan Salvador, assistant coach Don Pomeroy. Missing is Kyle Piazza. *Mickey Curtis Photo*

april 2002

Owls Defeat Highly Ranked MCLA; Hall Hurls One-Hitter

WESTFIELD - Strong pitching performances ruled the day as Massachusetts College and Westfield State split a conference baseball doubleheader on Tuesday, April 23.

In the opener, Nate Hall tossed a one-hitter to lead the Westfield State to a 7-0 victory over Mass. College, which is ranked seventh in the latest New England Division III poll. In the nightcap, senior Bryan Biuso of Westfield twirled a four-hitter in the Mohawks' 5-2 victory.

Mass. College is now 10-2 in the Mass. State Conference and 26-4-1 overall, setting a school record for most victories in a season. Westfield is 6-6 in the conference and 11-19 overall.

Hall, a 6-3 200-pound lefty from Searsport, Maine, shut out the Mohawks for the second consecutive year. Last season he threw a four-hitter in a 4-0 victory. Hall walked five, struck out five, hit a batter, and gave up a double to Brian Uliasz to lead off the fourth.

Westfield snapped a scoreless tie with a four-run uprising in the fifth, with the big blow a three-run homer by leadoff hitter Corey Scafidi (Waltham). The Owls added three unearned runs in the sixth.

Junior right fielder Aaron Belanger of Pittsfield was 2 for 3 for Westfield with two runs scored and an RBI. Freshman third baseman Shaun Geary was 2 for 3 with a double.

In the nightcap, Biuso had a one-hitter through six innings before allowing two runs on three hits in Westfield's final at bat. Biuso struck out four and walked one.

Junior catcher Shaun Richard paced the Mohawks's 12-hit attack. Richard was 3 for 4 with two doubles and three RBI, including an RBI double in the fourth to snap a scoreless tie.

Ray McPeck tripled for one of Westfield's four hits. Freshman first baseman Brett Ford and junior second Tim Cadman were both 1 for 3 with an RBI

2001-2002

WESTFIELD STATE SOFTBALL TEAM: First row, left to right: Leah Peterson, Meghan Perreault, B.J. Dion, Amanda Fregeau, Jenn Koziol. Second row: Erin Stawarz, Sarah Kalagher, Nikki Benson, Tasha Goulet, Cait Driscoll, Casey Greggo, Suzie Scott. Third row: head coach Lou Ann Simchak, assistant coach Ken Haar, Abby Wrinn, Liz Oliveira, Michelle Prall, Nelly Pelletier, Kate Pomerleau, Noelle Berard, Sarah Simmons, Christina D'Ambrosio, assistant coach Sue Smith. *Mickey Curtis Photo*

Softball Sweeps Mass. College

WESTFIELD - The Westfield State softball team swept a doubleheader from Western Mass. rival Massachusetts College in conference action on Tuesday, April 23.

The Owls held on to win the opener, 5-3, then rallied to win the nightcap, 9-3.

Westfield is now 18-14-1 overall and 7-5 in the Mass. State Conference. Mass. College is 12-21 and 4-8.

In the first game, Westfield survived the visitors' three-run uprising in the seventh inning. The Owls won despite being outhit, 10-9. Westfield junior second baseman Meghan Perreault was 3 for 3 with two RBI and a double, and junior catcher Tasha Goulet of Worcester (Doherty) was 2 for 4 with an RBI.

Winning pitcher Sarah Simmons scattered 10 hits, struck out three and allowed no walks.

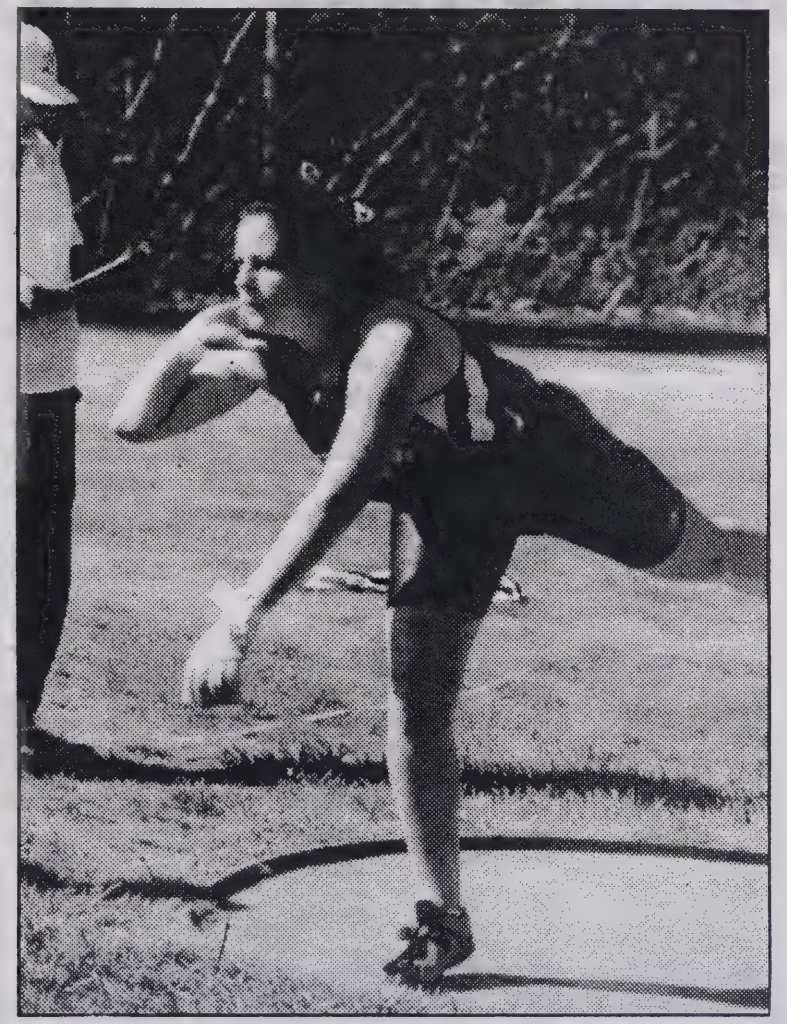
In the nightcap, the Owls trailed 2-0 before erupting for seven runs in the fourth inning. All of the runs scored with two outs as seven consecutive Owls reached base safely. The big blows were a two-run double by Perreault and a three-run double off the left field fence by Goulet.

Westfield pounded 16 hits with every player hitting safely. Winning pitcher Sarah Kalagher (Worcester/Holy Name) was 3 for 3 with a double, and sophomore third baseman Jenn Koziol (Southwick) was 3 for 4 with two RBI. Perreault was 2 for 4.

Kalagher picked up her ninth victory of the season in 13 decisions. She allowed two earned runs and six hits, walked three and struck out three.

2001-2002

Owls Defend Conference Track, Field Titles



FOUR-TIME CHAMP: Sophomore Abbey Laffond set a conference record in the shot put. She also placed first in the discus, hammer throw, and javelin to lead the Owls to a close victory over Bridgewater State.
Photo By Mickey Curtis

Men Dominate MASCAC, New England Alliance

WESTFIELD - With a large number of alumni in attendance, the Westfield State College men's track and field team had plenty of incentive by capturing its sixth straight Mass. State Conference championship with another dominating performance.

The Owls racked up 308 points to easily outdistance second place Bridgewater State (128 points) in claiming their 26th MASCAC crown in 31 years. In addition, Westfield won its fifth straight New England Alliance championship, which was held in conjunction with the MASCAC meet.

"Sometimes I'm concerned the guys are going to let up and just go through the motions because they're overconfident," said head coach Sean O'Brien. "But there is no way that is going to happen when so many track alumni show up. There is too much pride at stake and they want to impress them (alumni)."

Westfield's depth again was evident as it won 13 of the 20 events, with Ryan Fregeau the only individual double winner. The junior sprinter from Athol claimed crowns in the 100 (11.29) and the 200 (22.58). Fregeau also ran a leg on the championship 4 x 100 (42.87) and 4 x 400 (3:24.88) relay squads that set records in the Alliance meet.

"Ryan looked good out there; he seems to be peaking at the right time," said O'Brien.

Other members of the record-setting relay were David Eaton of East Bridgewater, Greg Aucoin of Brimfield (Tantasqua Regional) and Chris Hume (Orange) in the 4 x 400, and Aucoin, Mat LeMaire and Eaton in the 4 x 100.

The Owls also dominated the throwing events, led by freshman Peter King of Athol, who won the discus and finished second in the hammer throw and shot put. Senior Vinny Ferrechia of Marlboro won the javelin and junior Tom Gilbert of Amherst took first in the shot put.

Other firsts were recorded by Josh Lewbel (long jump), Chris Allie of Chicopee (triple jump), Geoff Churchill (steeplechase), LeMaire (110 high hurdles), Tom Bousquet of Chicopee (1500), and Eaton (400).

Placing second in two events were Marco Iannello (800, steeplechase) and Aucoin (100, 200).

Laffond Leads Close Win

April 2002

WESTFIELD - An outstanding individual performance by sophomore thrower Abbey Laffond led the Westfield State College women's track and field team to its fifth straight Mass. State Conference championship on Saturday, April 27.

Laffond placed first in all four throwing events to lead the Owls to a close victory over Bridgewater State. Westfield finished with 204 points, followed by Bridgewater (192), Salem (81), Fitchburg (79), and Worcester (19).

The team championship also clinched the Smith Cup title for Westfield State, its first outright Smith Cup crown in 24 years (see related story).

"Abbey did a super job for us, but we also had a lot of key performances from some other people, like Jen Howard and Jess Silva," said coach Sean O'Brien, who worked overtime himself with the pre-meet entries in each event.

Laffond won the shot put with a meet-record heave of 40-3 and also finished first in the javelin (117-0), hammer throw (129-5), and discus (113-0). In addition, she also ran a leg on the second place 4 x 100 relay.

Sophomore sprinter/jumper Jess Silva also had a busy day. Silva competed in six events, including first places in the long jump and 400 meter dash. She finished second in the 200, third in the 100, and ran on the 4 x 100 relay that finished second.

"It was a long day for a lot of us but it was worth it," said Silva. "We doubled and tripled up in a lot of events and came together as a team."

Freshman Jen Howard claimed the conference crown in the triple jump. She also finished second in the high jump, fourth in the long jump and 400 hurdles, sixth in the 100 hurdles, and ran on the runner-up relay squads.

Other second places were recorded by: Vicki Hood (javelin), Alyssa Reid (10,000), Catie Geldert (5,000), and Sara Coons (1500 and 3000).

New England Alliance Men's Results

New England Alliance Outdoor Track and Field Championships
April 27, 2002 - at Westfield State

MEN'S TEAM STANDINGS: Westfield 172; Eastern Connecticut 115; Keene State 108; Bridgewater 72.5; Southern Maine 51; Mass Dartmouth 25.5; Worcester 25; Rhode Island College 18; Salem State 18; Fitchburg 15.

FIRST: Vinny Ferrecchia, javelin, 178-8; 4 x 100 relay, 42.87; David Eaton, 400, 51.06; Ryan Fregeau, 100, 11.29; Ryan Fregeau, 200, 22.58; 4 x 400 relay, 3:24.88; Mat LeMaire, 110 hurdles, 15.55.
SECOND: Tom Gilbert, shot put, 43-5 1/4; Josh Lewbel, long jump, 19-10 3/4; Chris Allie, triple jump, 40-10 1/2; Mat LeMaire, 110 hurdles, 15.55; Ryan Fregeau, 100, 11.29; Chris Hume, 400 hurdles, 55.7.
THIRD: Greg Haskel, javelin, 163-8; Peter King, discus, 138-1; Peter King, shot put, 42-8 1/4; Chris Allie, long jump, 19-9; Greg Aucoin, 100, 11.6; Greg Aucoin, 200, 23.12.
FOURTH: Peter King, hammer, 129-9; Stanley Pau, shot put, 41-8 3/4; Geoff Churchill, 3000 steeplechase, 10:03.8; Chris Hume, 110 hurdles, 16.14; Tom Bousquet, 1500, 4:08.04; Tom Bousquet, 5000, 16:02.02.
SIXTH: Scott Umbrianna, discus, 122-4; Andy Barron, 10,000, 35:33.31; Marco Iannello, 3000 steeplechase, 10:29.9.

New England Alliance Women's Results

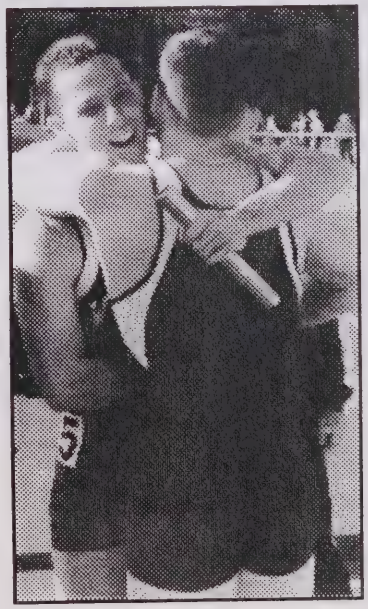
New England Alliance Outdoor Track and Field Championships
April 27, 2002 - at Westfield State

WOMEN'S TEAM STANDINGS: Southern Maine 191; Keene State 148; Bridgewater State 72; Westfield State 70; Rhode Island College 49; Salem State 32; Eastern Connecticut State 29; Mass Dartmouth 21; Fitchburg State 8.

FIRST: Abbey Laffond, shot put, 40-3 1/4.
SECOND: Abbey Laffond, discus, 113-0; Jen Howard, high jump, 5-0; Jess Silva, 400, 1:00.57.
THIRD: Abbey Laffond, javelin, 117-0.
FOURTH: Vicki Hood, javelin, 113-0; Jess Silva, long jump, 14-10 1/2; Catie Geldert, 5000, 20:17.53; 4 x 100 relay, 54.41; 4 x 400 relay, 4:31.65.
FIFTH: Abbey Laffond, hammer throw, 129-5; Jen Howard, triple jump, 30-2.
SIXTH: Alyssa Reid, 10,000, 49:20.1; Jess Silva, 200, 28.01.

Mass. State Conference Championship Men's Results

MEN'S TEAM STANDINGS: Westfield 308; Bridgewater 128; Fitchburg 60; Worcester 54; Salem 51.
FIRST: Vinny Ferrecchia, javelin, 178-8; Peter King, discus, 138-1; Tom Gilbert, shot put, 43-5 1/4; Josh Lewbel, long jump, 19-10 3/4; Chris Allie, triple jump, 40-10 1/2; 4 x 100 relay, 42.87; Geoff Churchill, 3000 steeplechase, 10:03.8; Mat LeMaire, 110 hurdles, 15.55; Ryan Fregeau, 100, 11.29; Tom Bousquet, 1500, 4:08.04; David Eaton, 400, 51.06; Ryan Fregeau, 200, 22.58; 4 x 400 relay, 3:24.88.
SECOND: Peter King, hammer throw, 129-9; Scott Umbrianna, discus, 122-4; Nik Wlodyka, pole vault, 10-0; Peter King, shot put, 42-8 1/4; Chris Allie, long jump, 19-9; Andy Barron, 10,000, 35:33.31; Marco Iannello, 3000 steeplechase, 10:29.9; Greg Aucoin, 100, 11.6; Marco Iannello, 800, 2:01.06; Chris Hume, 400 Hurdles, 55.7; Greg Aucoin, 200, 23.12; Tom Bousquet, 5000, 16:02.02.
THIRD: Greg Haskell, javelin, 163-8; Stanley Pau, discus, 117-9; Stanley Pau, shot put, 41-8 3/4; Mat LeMaire, high jump, 5-10; Stephen Cole, 3000 steeplechase, 10:47.3; Chris Hume, 110 hurdles, 16.14; Nick Burke, 1500, 4:13.49; Mat LeMaire, 400 Hurdles, 59.07.
FOURTH: Chris Gonynor, javelin, 138-5; Stanley Pau, hammer, 123-4; Patrick Swett, pole vault, 9-6; Jim Foley, high jump, 5-10; Geoff Churchill, 1500, 4:17.68; David Eaton, 200, 23.53.
FIFTH: Tom Gilbert, hammer, 122-2; Eric Gonynor, discus, 109-6; Josh Lewbel, triple jump, 37-9 1/2; Bryon Baily, 5000, 18:02.93.
SIXTH: Tom Gilbert, discus, 109-1; David Eaton, 100, 13.46.



Chris Hume, holding baton, is congratulated by David Eaton after Westfield set an Alliance meet record in the 4 X 400 relay. The Owls also set a meet record in the 4 X 100.
Photo By Mickey Curtis

2001-2002

Softball Is In Tournament

April 2002

FRAMINGHAM - The Westfield State softball team gained a doubleheader split with Framingham State with a convincing 12-0 second-game victory in key conference action.

The Owls, who dropped the first game, 4-3, are 19-15-1 overall and finished tied for third in the Mass. State Conference with an 8-6 record. The Owls are seeded third in the four-team, double elimination conference tournament.

In the opener, the Owls tied the score with a three-run uprising in the top of the fifth; the big blow was a three-run double by Michelle Prall. But Framingham scored the game-winning run on a sixth-inning sacrifice fly.

Framingham freshman Jen Mazzone tossed a four-hitter to win the first game, and she also got the starting nod for game two with both teams holding 7-6 conference records and a playoff berth at stake. But the Owls battered Mazzone in the nightcap for 17 hits with each starter hitting safely.

The Owls scored a run in the first, four in the second and seven in the sixth and final frame.

Sarah Kalagher was 2 for 4 with three RBI and junior catcher Tasha Goulet was 2 for 3 with two doubles and two RBI. Freshman shortstop Amanda Fregeau was 2 for 4 with two RBI.

Baseball Swept In Finale

FRAMINGHAM - The Westfield State baseball team was swept by Framingham State, 8-1 and 5-3, in key conference action on Saturday, April 27.

Westfield finishes its season with an 11-22 overall record and a 6-8 mark in the Mass. State Conference. A victory over Framingham State would have qualified the Owls for the conference's postseason tournament. Framingham qualified for the fourth and final berth with a 7-7 record.

The Owls, who had split their six previous conference doubleheaders, led 1-0 in the nightcap as pitcher Corey Scafidi had a one-hitter through five innings. But Framingham collected five hits in its decisive five-run sixth inning, including three bloop singles, a double, and a misplayed hit that went for a triple.

Westfield mounted a mini rally in its final at bat, scoring twice. Mike Carney and Matt Larabee were both 2 for 3.

In the opener, the Owls only collected four hits, including an RBI double by freshman first baseman Brett Ford.

Baseball, Softball All Conference

Baseball First Team
Ray McPeck - Catcher

Baseball Second Team
Shaun Geary - Third Base
Corey Scafidi - Outfield

Softball First Team
Kate Pomerleau - First Base

Softball Second Team
Sarah Kalagher - Pitcher
Tasha Goulet - Catcher
Meghan Perreault - Second Base
B.J. Dion - Outfielder

Co-Coach of Year
Lou Ann Simchak

Women's Track, Field Results

WOMEN'S TEAM STANDINGS: Westfield 204; Bridgewater 192; Salem 81; Fitchburg 79; Worcester 19.

FIRST: Abbey Laffond, javelin, 117-0; Abbey Laffond, hammer throw, 129-5; Abbey Laffond, discus, 113-0; Abbey Laffond, shot put, 40-3 1/4; Jess Silva, long jump, 14-10 1/2; Jen Howard, triple jump, 30-2; Jess Silva, 400, 1:00.57.
SECOND: Vicki Hood, javelin, 113-0; Jen Howard, high jump, 5-0; Alyssa Reid, 10,000, 49:20.01; Catie Geldert, 5,000, 20:17.53; 4 x 100 relay, 54.41; Sara Coons, 1500, 5:19.97; Jess Silva, 200, 28.01; 4 x 400 relay, 4:31.65; Sara Coons, 3000, 11:59.77.
THIRD: Jess Silva, 100, 14.77; Aimee Worcester, 1500, 5:20.3; Christine Byrne, 3000, 12:07.87.
FOURTH: Jen Howard, long jump, 13-6 1/4; Laureen D'Amato, triple jump, 27-4 3/4; Sue Lynch, high jump, 4-6; KellyRose O'Brien, 400, 1:03.68; Aimee Worcester, 800, 2:41.2; Jen Howard, 400 hurdles, 1:16.86; Laura Hurley, 3000, 12:30.17.
FIFTH: Nicole Spataro, discus, 76-9; Vicki Hood, shot put, 30-3; Laureen D'Amato, 100, 15.52; Catie Geldert, 1500, 5:41.09; Andrea Sawler, 800, 2:42.38
SIXTH: Vicki Hood, discus, 76-6; Erin Coburn, shot put, 28-1 1/2; Jill Stone, long jump, 11-0; Jen Howard, 100 hurdles, 19.88; KellyRose O'Brien, 200, 29.0

Westfield State Captures Smith Cup

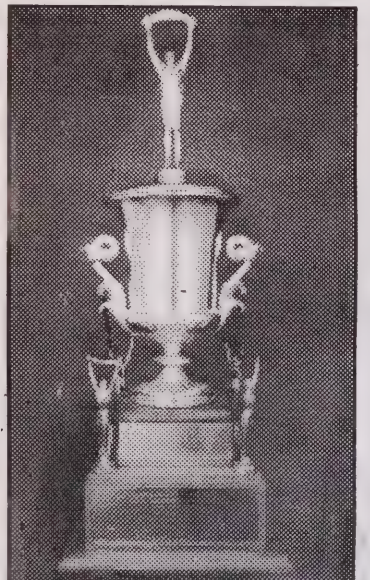
MAY 2002

By Mickey Curtis

WESTFIELD - The highly coveted Smith Cup trophy - emblematic of the top program in the Massachusetts State Athletics Conference - is Westfield State College's for the 2001-2002 academic year.

In one of the closest competitions in 30 years, Westfield State College edged Bridgewater State by a half of a point to give the Owls their first outright Smith Cup championship since 1978. Westfield and Bridgewater shared the Smith Cup in 1998.

"This is a great accomplishment for Westfield State College," said athletics director Ken Magarian. "The athletes and coaching staff are to be commended for their hard work throughout the year, but the Smith Cup belongs to the entire college community. We share this trophy with everybody. Athletics didn't win this championship, the entire college did."



The Smith Cup

The Owls finished with 32.5 points and were closely followed by Bridgewater State (32) and Worcester State (27). Last year Bridgewater won or shared its fifth Smith Cup crown in seven years by edging Westfield, 35-32.

The Smith Cup signifies athletics excellence in the eight-team conference, and is awarded to the MASCAC institution that compiles the most points based on the placement of each of its men's and women's programs competing in the 14 league championships. Six points are awarded for first place, four for second place, and two for third place in round robin team competitions. In the single-day championship competitions (cross country, track and field) three points are awarded for first place, two for second, and one for third.

Westfield State earned points in 11 of the 13 championships in which it competes. The Owls won three outright championships (football, men's track and field, and women's track and field) and shared the field hockey title with Worcester and Bridgewater.

The Owls picked up six big points in football, as they posted the first undefeated regular season in the program's 20-year history.

The race for the Smith Cup crown finished in dramatic fashion as the men's and women's track and field teams both defended their conference championships. The women's track and field team nipped Bridgewater by 12 points, 204-192, led by an outstanding individual performance from Abbey Laffond. Laffond placed first in all four throwing events, including the discus competition, which was the final event.

The softball team earned a key point by tying for third place. And though the Westfield baseball team did not finish in the top three, it defeated Bridgewater during the regular season to take a point away from the Bears.

Placing second for the Owls were men's soccer, women's volleyball, men's cross country, women's cross country, and women's basketball. The men's basketball team tied for third.

Magarian noted that women's swimming and diving is not a conference sport, but Westfield did defeat Bridgewater State and Salem State in dual meets. Furthermore, Magarian stated that the Westfield cheering competition squad is the finest in the conference, and the football and basketball cheerleading teams have made significant contributions.

"The athletes and coaches take a lot of pride in winning the Smith Cup," said Magarian. "Since 1998 it's been one of their major goals each year."

This is Westfield State's sixth Smith Cup crown. The Owls won the Cup four times during the 1970s.

Magarian also is proud that Westfield State athletes have been able to excel in the classroom as well.

At the conclusion of the fall semester, 37 percent of the student-athletes had cumulative grade point averages of 3.0 or better, and 43 percent of the student-athletes (130 of 305) earned a 3.0 or better semester grade point average.

"To also do well in the classroom makes winning the Smith Cup that much more meaningful," said Magarian. "We owe a lot of the Smith Cup to all our great faculty and administrators who work with our student-athletes every day. It is seldom for an institution to be the very best academically and athletically at the same time. This year Westfield State College is truly the best of the best on the field and in the classroom."

Massachusetts State College Athletics Conference
2001-2002 Howard C. Smith Cup Final Standings

Place	College	Points	Possible Points	Percentage
1.	Westfield State	32.5	66	.492
2.	Bridgewater State	32	66	.485
3.	Worcester State	27	72	.375
4.	Mass. College	12	48	.250
5.	Salem State	16	66	.242
6.	Fitchburg State	15.5	72	.215
7.	Framingham State	9	66	.136
8.	Mass. Maritime	0	36	.000

2001-2002

OPEN GYM HOURS

Parenzo Open Gym Hours:

Sunday - 12 pm - 12 am

Mon-Thurs - 6 pm - 1 am

Friday - 6 pm - 10 pm

Saturday - 12 pm - 6 pm

Juniper Park Open Gym Hours:

Mon - Thurs - 6 pm - 10 pm

MAY 2002

Congratulations to
Softball Champs
Men's highly skilled:
SPEAR BRITNEY
Men's skilled:
HIGH ROLLERS
Coed:
HOUSE OF PAIN

The Intramurals Department would like to thank everybody who participated for a great year.

2001-2002

2002-2003

Bob Farr
Class of 1955

2002 - 2003

After thirty years in the making the field house breaks ground

Sept. 2002

By Alison Close
News Editor

As everyone most likely noticed while moving back to campus, the new Westfield State College Athletic and Academic Facility is now officially underway, although it almost didn't quite survive the Massachusetts budget cuts.

"The school almost lost the project this summer," said Assistant Vice President Curt Robie. "The state did not have enough money to fund the facility, but WSC agreed to cover the first year's expenses with our portion of the funds. We began construction August 1."

During a time when budget cuts have affected class sizes, faculty staff, and course selections, Robie said that the funding for this project was already approved before these budget problems began occurring, which is why the state and WSC found a way to continue with the building.

-Photo by Adrienne Lamplough

Fieldhouse construction is underway.

According to Robie, the usual funding process includes the state contributing its portion of the cost first, with the school putting up its share later on. However, Robie said the school agreed to fund the beginning of the project rather than the end to give the state more time to come up with its money.

"Now that the project has begun, it will be finished," Robie stated in regards to whether the state will actually have that money come crunch time.

The total estimated cost of this athletic facility is approximately $15.3 million, Robie explained. The school is responsible for funding $5.2 million of

Field House - Page 2

2002 - 2003

Field House

Sept 2002

■ *Continued from Page 1*

this total cost. The state of Massachusetts will pick up the remaining $10.1 million.

Robie said that the new athletic facility will consist of two parts: the field house and the academic center.

Robie said the field house will include: an 1100 seat basketball court with a wood performance floor; a four lane track with a six lane straightaway; a climbing wall; facilities for indoor track events; and two intramural basketball courts that accommodate tennis, badminton and volleyball.

In addition, theatrical lighting for potential concert use will be installed, Robie said.

The academic side of the building will be home to the Movement Science offices, as well as offices for athletics and intramurals, Robie explained. A training room, equipment room and fitness room will also be included. A Hall of Fame for WSC college students will also be a part of this facility.

Other benefits include classrooms, a computer lab and an aerobics facility, among other things, he said.

Despite these additions to the college campus, Robie added that there will be no changes to the Wellness Center over in Ely Campus Center.

"The athletic facilities will not be open to general students at first," Robie said. "The wellness center will still accommodate students and faculty while the new athletic facility will be for those involved with athletics."

Robie said the initial request for a WSC athletic facility occurred back in 1969. Since then, politics and state funding issues have delayed the process. Robie added that the final authorization for this project came in 1993, but there wasn't enough money to fund the project. The final settlement on funding came as late as this past June.

"There were a lot of calls and trips to Boston this summer to make this actually happen," Robie said. "We have needed a field house for the past 30 years. This has been a long time coming and we're not going to stop now."

"This will have such a positive effect as to the marketability of the college. It shows that WSC is trying to move forward in light of such tough budgeting times," Robie said.

"We will be able to offer more intramurals, improve programs and give students an outlet for both learning and recreational purposes. It's a win win situation and I think it will be great."

The tentative completion date is currently set for January of 2004.

Robie said that this construction will have an effect on this year's athletic season, as both field entrances have been closed. Everyone must use the temporary entrances near 333. Also, parking for games and practices will be restricted to the church parking lot, 333 and Commuter lot, Robie stated.

There will be an official groundbreaking ceremony September 26 at 10 am. All students and facility are all invited to the ceremony and reception immediately following, although classes will still be held.

2002-2003

SEPT. 2002

A special invitation....

Access to Excellence
The Campaign for Westfield State College

Westfield State College
Foundation, Inc.
577 Western Avenue
Westfield, MA
01086-1630

Robert Farr
61 Carroll Drive
Westfield, Ma 01085-2126

01085+2126 15

2003

We're Breaking New Ground!

The Westfield State College Foundation, Inc.
and
Dr. Frederick W. Woodward, President
Westfield State College
cordially invite you to attend

A Groundbreaking Ceremony and Reception
for the new
Academic and Athletic Complex

Thursday, September 26, 2002
10:00 a.m.

Reception immediately to follow at
333 Western Avenue
Westfield, MA

Access to Excellence
The Campaign for Westfield State College

Westfield State College
Foundation, Inc.
577 Western Avenue
Westfield, MA
01086-1630

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2002-2003

Preseason leaves players ready to defend Title

Sept. 2002

By Adrienne Lamplough
Editor In Chief

With preseason coming to a close and the regular season about to kick off, Westfield State's football team is looking forward to another successful year.

Last year's undefeated season is part of history, giving the new year many new possibilities and hopefully a continuation of the winning streak they've embarked on.

The general consensus among players is that Worcester State is the team to beat.

"Worcester State will be the most difficult team we're up against this year, they are very physical and it's going to be one tough game," Quarterback Bob Arnett said.

"This year will be different because we'll be the ones on top," Tight End Brian Matuszko said. "Nichols College and Worcester State are guaranteed to be the most difficult teams. Both those teams will have highlighted us in their schedules."

Playing Worcester State will definitely be one of the hardest games we'll play this year, Cornerback Aaron Ragland said. "Last year playing against

Football - Page 2

Football

■ *Continued from Page 1*

Worcester State was the greatest game you witnessed as a player or spectator," Ragland said.

"I am looking forward to getting back to hitting because my season was cut short," Ragland explained.

"I feel the offensive have definitely pulled themselves together. And I am looking forward to them lighting up the scoreboard. The defense is just about to pick up right where they left off with the number one defensive position in the nation," Ragland said.

"Last year had a lot of firsts for us and it's tough to copy something that's already been accomplished," Matuszko said.

"Every team is going to want to knock us off our proverbial pedestal," Matuszko said.

Being able to defend the Championship in every game is highly important, Matuszko said.

"I think we'll have a very good season, we will have to fill spots but we'll have a solid year all around," Arnett said.

Only a few good players have been lost, Arnett said.

"All American Defensive End Timmy Corr, Offensive Guard George Emmanuel and Running Back Shawn Lyman are a few key players that graduated last year," Ragland said.

2002 Westfield State Football Schedule

Day	Date	Opponent	Time
Saturday	Sept. 14	at Western New England	1:00
Saturday	Sept. 21	NICHOLS	1:00
Saturday	Sept. 28	at Fitchburg State	1:30
Saturday	Oct. 5	WORCESTER STATE	1:00
Saturday	Oct. 12	MASS MARITIME	1:00
Saturday	Oct. 19	at Bridgewater State	1:00
Saturday	Oct. 26	FRAMINGHAM STATE	1:00
Saturday	Nov. 2	at Maine Maritime	12:00
Saturday	Nov. 9	at Curry	12:00
Saturday	Nov. 16 NEFC	Championship Game at Worcester State	

2002-2003

Fall Sports Roundup Sept. 2002

Men's Soccer 0 – West. Conn. 0

WESTFIELD – Westfield State and Western Connecticut State University battled to a 0-0 double overtime tie in a men's soccer game between two of the top Division 3 teams in New England on Sept. 11.

Western Connecticut, 4-0-2, is ranked sixth in New England; Westfield State, 1-0-1, is 12th.

Both teams had 12 shots and each goalie made six saves in 110 minutes of scoreless action. Westfield sophomore goalie Brian Ginisi made a spectacular diving stop with six seconds left in regulation.

Men's Soccer 1 – A. Magnus 0

NEW HAVEN – Freshman forward Billy Campbell of Stoneham scored with 3:19 left in regulation to give the Owls a 1-0 victory over Albertus Magnus in their season opener.

Campbell's scored on a header off a direct kick from senior standout Chris Whalley.

Women's Soccer 0 – J & W 0

WESTFIELD – Westfield and Johnson & Wales battled to a scoreless deadlock in the season opener for both teams.

The Owls outshot the visitors, 7-3. The game was played in extremely hot conditions at Alumni Field.

WNEC 1 – Field Hockey 0

WESTFIELD – Alyssa Katz scored with 21 seconds left in the second overtime to give WNEC a 1-0 victory over Westfield State.

Westfield goalie Jill Annunciata made 21 saves.

Bryant 4 – Field Hockey 1

SMITHFIELD, R.I. – Westfield dropped a 4-1 decision to Bryant College in its season opener.

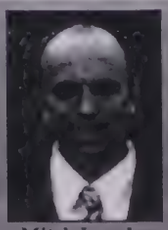
Freshman Missy Alcorn scored the Owls' only goal off an assist from Laura Scott.

Volleyball Report

SPRINGFIELD – WNEC swept the Owls 30-13, 30-18, 30-17. Rachel Allgaier totaled 41 assists and Amy Svatik had 11 digs.

In Westfield's season opener, nationally ranked Williams posted a 30-11, 30-15, 30-18 victory. The Owls also lost to Coast Guard 30-28, 30-17, 30-22. Senior Katelynn Foley recorded five kills vs. Coast Guard.

Peter Laviolette


Mitch Longley

Ken McCarron

Mark Pananos

Rob Quinn

Lori Hadley

■ *Continued from Page 1*

Winter Olympic Games: the 1988 Calgary Games and in 1994 at Lillehammer, Norway. Laviolette was the only NCAA Division 3 player on both teams and earned the prestigious honor of being named captain of the 1994 Team USA squad.

More recently, Laviolette's outstanding leadership qualities have emerged in the National Hockey League as the head coach of the New York Islanders. In his first year at the helm of the NHL club, the 37-year-old led the vastly improved Islanders to the 2002 playoffs, where they lost to the Toronto Maple Leafs in a seven-game, first-round series

Under Laviolette's direction, the Islanders went from having the worst record in the NHL to the fifth best mark in the Eastern Conference with 98 points. Their 44-point increase from the 2001 season was the fourth best turnaround in NHL history.

Laviolette's meteoric rise in the coaching ranks began as an assistant coach while finishing his playing career in 1997 as a member of the Providence Bruins, Boston's minor league affiliate in the American Hockey League (AHL). In 1997-98, he began his minor league head coaching career with the Wheeling Thunderbirds in West Virginia and led them to the East Coast Hockey League playoff semifinals.

In 1998, he began a two-year stint as head coach of the Providence Bruins. In 1998-99, he led Providence to the winningest season in AHL history with a 56-14-4-4 record and a 15-4 postseason run as it captured the AHL's Calder Cup championship. At the conclusion of the season, Laviolette was named the league's Outstanding Coach.

In 1999-2000, he again led Providence to a playoff spot despite using more than 80 players due to injuries and recalls to Boston. His two-year record at Providence was 89-54-10-7 with a 25-8 playoff record.

During the 2000-2001 season, Laviolette was promoted to the NHL where he served as an assistant coach with the Boston Bruins.

The Franklin, Mass., native played professional hockey for 11 years, and fulfilled a childhood dream by playing in the National Hockey League for 12 games with the New York Rangers during the 1988-89 season.

Laviolette has been a leader throughout his ice hockey career and a captain at every level of competition. He was a captain during his senior, junior and sophomore seasons at Westfield State, where he was an all-conference defenseman and led the team in scoring his senior year. A four-year starter at Westfield State, he ranks 14th in career scoring with 43 goals and 44 assists. Laviolette also was actively involved in the intramurals sports program at Westfield State for four years and supervised the college's floor hockey league.

Laviolette was first honored by Westfield State in 1988 when he received the Alumnus of the Year Award. He and his wife, Kristen, have two sons, Peter and Jack, and a daughter, Elizabeth Rose.

MITCH LONGLEY

Mitch Longley is the most prolific thrower in the history of the Westfield State track and field team. He was a seven-time national qualifier, earned All New England honors nine times, and was a five-time Massachusetts State Conference champion while competing in the hammer throw, discus and shot put.

Longley still holds school records in the hammer throw (173-5) and the 35-pound weight throw (55-6 1/2). Both records were set during his graduation year of 1986.

Longley's most successful season was as a junior when he claimed both the New England Division III indoor and outdoor titles in the shot put.

During the indoor season, he placed eighth at the national championships in the 35-pound weight throw with a then school-record heave of 48-11.

During the outdoor season he was the Mass. State Conference champion in the hammer throw and shot put and finished second in the discus.

Longley was a three-year captain for the powerful Westfield State track and field teams of the mid 1980s that won the New England Division III championship in 1985 and finished fourth in New England in 1986.

During his postgraduate years, Longley continued to excel in athletic endeavors. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1986-1990 and participated on its track and field and wrestling teams. He was the shot put champion while stationed at Guantanamo Bay and Camp LeJeune, N.C.

In 1988 he placed second in the 198-pound weight class at the Virginia state powerlifting championships.

Longley is employed as a firefighter/EMT in Palm Beach County, Fla., and is the Palm Beach County record holder in the firefighter combat challenge. He participated in the firefighter combat challenge world championships in 1998, 1999, and 2000. He won the Southeast Regional firefighter combat challenge in 2000 with a time of 1:41, then led his squad to an eighth place finish in the USA championships.

KEN "MAC" McCARRON

Ken "Mac" McCarron was a standout defender on Westfield State's championship men's soccer teams in 1973 and 1974.

The Ludlow native was the starting center fullback on the 1974 Westfield State team that won the Massachusetts State Conference championship, the New England Division III championship, and placed third at the NCAA national championships.

McCarron was a two-time Massachusetts State Conference All Star and All New England selection, and was named Westfield State's Defender of the Year in both 1973 and 1974. The Owls also participated in the NCAA Tournament and were conference co-champions during his junior year.

Following his graduation from Westfield State in 1976, McCarron was a member of the Ludlow Lusitanos semi-professional soccer team, and was selected to the Ludlow Bicentennial soccer team in 1976. But he soon began to make a name for himself in the American sport of football. McCarron was an All-Star placekicker for the Marlboro Shamrocks of the Eastern Football League. Possessing a powerful right leg, he finished second in the league in scoring and drew the attention of NFL scouts.

The 6-2, 210 pounder signed a professional contract with the Washington Redskins in 1978, followed by a free agent contract with the New England Patriots in 1979 and 1980. Despite his limited football playing experience, the former Westfield State soccer standout was in serious competition for an NFL roster spot with the highly regarded Mark Mosley (Redskins) and John Smith (Patriots) before the teams decided to keep their veteran kickers.

McCarron majored in criminal justice at Westfield State, and later received a master's degree in criminal justice from American International College in 1982.

From 1977 to 1979 McCarron was a deputy sheriff with the Hampden County sheriff's office. McCarron then became a member of the U.S. Capitol Police patrol division and honor guard in addition to assisting the Secret Service with VIP motorcades in Washington, D.C. from 1981 to 1985.

Since 1985 McCarron has earned national recognition as a senior special agent and supervisory special agent with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). He has been awarded numerous letters of commendation and awards for exceptional service for his efforts in drug enforcement in South Florida, the Caribbean, Central America and South America.

Furthermore, McCarron was awarded the United States Department of State Award for Heroism, the DEA's Award of Valor, and United States Coast Guard Silver Star for his display of heroism in the rescue of 13 people in the Bahamas during Hurricane Floyd. McCarron resides in Sunrise, Fla., with his wife, Lori.

MARK PANANOS

Mark Pananos was a four-year pitching star for the Westfield State championship baseball teams of the mid-1970s.

Pananos was an All New England selection in 1976, a three-time all conference selection, and a two-time team Most Valuable Pitcher. He was a team captain during his senior year, then signed a professional contract with the Milwaukee Brewers following his graduation in 1977. He is one of seven Westfield State players to sign a professional baseball contract.

Pananos, who also played four years of varsity volleyball at Westfield State, posted a career pitching record of 25-8 for the Owls, who won two conference championships and played in three NCAA Tournaments during his four years. The diminutive left-hander still holds school records for strikeouts in a season (71), lowest career earned run average (2.41) and career starts (33). Possessing outstanding control, Pananos averaged approximately two walks per game in his collegiate career.

Following his playing days he was the head baseball coach at American International College from 1982 to 1988.

Pananos has taught high school mathematics for 23 years, including 17 years at his high school alma mater. Since 1997 he has taught advanced level mathematics at the Academy at Swift River in Cummington, Mass., where he also serves as the dean of the academic faculty and chair of both the math and science departments. He resides in Cummington and has a 10-year-old son Timothy.

ROB QUINN

Rob Quinn was an All American lacrosse player at Westfield State and has continued to excel in the sport as a head coach.

Quinn was voted the 2002 coach of the year in the New England Small College Athletic Conference in his first year at Colby College in Maine.

He led Colby to an 11-5 record, up from 3-9 in 2001, and a berth in the conference's championship game vs. Middlebury, which has won the past three NCAA Division III national titles.

Quinn, who is also an assistant football coach at Colby, earned Commonwealth Coast Conference coach of the year honors twice at New England College in Henniker, N.H. He was the head lacrosse coach/assistant athletics director at New England College from 1995 to 2001 and posted a seven-year record of 80-25 with three conference titles. In 2000 he led New England College to a perfect 16-0 regular season record and its first berth in the NCAA Division III national tournament.

The 1989 Westfield State graduate also was an assistant coach at Roanoke, Va., College for two years (1993-94), and served a three-year stint (1990-92) as the head coach at the University of Hartford. His 11-year record as a head coach is 106-56.

As a player, Quinn led the Owls to the Pilgrim League title in 1989 when he was selected an NCAA All American; he is the only Westfield State lacrosse player to achieve the national honor.

Quinn also was chosen to play in the prestigious North/South All Star game in 1989. He was a three-time All New England Division III midfielder and a three-time Pilgrim League All-Star.

LORI (VINCENT) HADLEY

Lori (Vincent) Hadley is the only All American in the 20-year history of the Westfield State swimming and diving program.

Competing in the diving events, Hadley was a three-time All American and a six-time national qualifier. During her senior year in 1991, she earned her highest All American recognition by placing eighth on the one-meter board. She gained All American honorable mention status by finishing 12th nationally in the three-meter diving in 1991 and 11th in the same event in 1990.

Hadley earned All New England honors in both diving events in 1989, 1990, and 1991. Until this past season Hadley was the school record holder in all diving events; she still holds school records in eight of the nine dives. She was Westfield State's NCAA Women of the Year nominee in 1991 and was named to the Who's Who in America Colleges and Universities.

A team captain, Hadley also excelled academically. She was a nationalswim coaches association 1990 Academic All America and was a Dean's List student for seven semesters. During her college years she served as a freshman orientation group leader and a student counselor. She also participated in intramural athletics and was a member of the Westfield State cheerleading squad.

Hadley is a 1987 graduate of Pittsfield High School and was a Berkshire County diving champion as well as an All Western Mass. diver. She graduated from Westfield State with a business management degree and a minor in psychology. She received her MBA from Western New England College in 1995.

Following her graduation from Westfield State, Hadley worked with abused children at Hillcrest Educational Centers, Inc., in Lenox. She worked as a clinical intern for one year, then was promoted to assistant program director - a position she held for the next six years. Since the birth of her first child she has been operating a licensed family day care center from her home, and has just recently become an independent consultant for PartyLite, which specializes in home sales of candles.

2002-2003

Westfield State inducts former students into Hall of Fame

Sept. 2002

MICKEY CURTIS
SPECIAL TO THE VOICE

Six former Westfield State greats, including New York Islanders head coach Peter Laviolette, have been selected for induction into the college's Athletics Hall of Fame.

The eighth annual inductions will take place Saturday evening, Sept. 7, 2002, at Scanlon Banquet Hall on the Westfield State campus. Following the inductions there will be 63 members in the prestigious Hall.

The Class of 2002 inductees include: Laviolette ('86), ice hockey; Mitch Longley ('86), track and field; Ken McCarron ('76), soccer; Mark Pananos ('77), baseball; Rob Quinn ('89), lacrosse; and Lori (Vincent) Hadley ('91), swimming and diving.

In addition to honoring the six inductees, Westfield State and its Athletics Hall of Fame Committee will pay special tribute to two former student-athletes who sacrificed their lives in military service during wartime for their country. Honored posthumously with "Awards of Valor" will be John Earle ('66), baseball/soccer; and Earl Wilson ('42), basketball.

Contact the Westfield State athletics department at 572-5405 for ticket information. The public is invited to attend the inductions on Sept. 7, 2002.

Peter Laviolette has given Westfield State College both national and international recognition as a hockey player and coach.

The 1986 Westfield State graduate represented the United States in two

Sports - Page 10

Football Team Has New Challenges In 2002

It was a season of firsts for the Westfield State football team in 2001.

The Owls posted their first perfect regular season, captured their first New England Football Conference (NEFC) and Mass. State Conference championships, participated in their first NCAA Tournament, and were ranked first nationally in total defense.

It truly was a special season and the Owls rose to the challenge each time despite their first venture into uncharted gridiron territories.

And the 2002 season poses a new set of challenges for the Owls as they defend a championship for the first time in the program's 21-year history.

"This is all new to us," said 13th year head coach Steve Marino. "We are coming into the season with higher expectations. Last year we weren't expected to win and it's always easier to sneak up on people. We've never defended a title but the good news is we've got the kids back that we need for leadership."

The returning numbers are excellent for the Owls. They have 16 starters returning, including nine of 11 players who were all-conference last year in the 13-team NEFC. Forty of the 77 players on the roster are letterwinners, including a large senior class of 18. The Owls only had eight seniors in 2001, a year in which they shattered 55 school records.

"This is my strongest senior class ever and we'll be looking to them for leadership," said Marino. "We always talk about not letting down, but kids and kids and sometimes they say the right thing but don't do it."

Marino is confident, however, his squad will be ready for the challenging schedule that features conference rivals Worcester State and Bridgewater State and nondivisional powers Nichols and Curry. A chief reason is that his players have big-game experience.

"A lot of our wins last year were blue collar wins; there were very few blowouts," Marino said. "And we were able to come up big in the big games. We just have to play hard, stay focused and not get complacent."

With senior All America middle linebacker Josue Zamora leading the nine returning starters on defense, the Owls will be bringing their lunchboxes to each game. In addition to leading the nation in total defense in 2001, the Owls were ranked second in passing defense and eighth in both rushing and scoring defense.

"I still think we can be pretty good defensively with most of linemen and linebackers returning," said Marino. "But the secondary is critical because we don't have much depth there. We have to stay away from injuries."

Offensively, the Owls have seven returning starters, including the record-setting duo of quarterback Chris Lapointe and Matt Yvon. But Westfield is without one key player from last year – All America and All New England running back Shawn Lyman, who set a school rushing record (1,483 yards) when he averaged 28 carries per game.

"We are going to feature the tailback like we have in the past but we might feature the fullback more to take some of the pressure off," said Marino. "We also might be more of a "running back by committee." Our running backs are good but they are small and still young. Shawn was bigger and a little older."

Sophomore Don Jones will be the starting tailback; he rushed for 527 yards last season while averaging 10 carries per game. The backup tailbacks are both freshmen: Jay Abair and José Molina. They will be behind a large and an experienced offensive line.

"Don Jones will be our go to guy going into the season and I think he's ready for it," said Marino. "He had some big yards for us in close games last year."

The Owls also will try to diversify their passing attack, unlike last year when Yvon accounted for nearly 52 percent of the receptions. Lapointe, now 6-3 and 240 pounds, has a year of playing experience in the Westfield system after transferring from Central Connecticut State.

"Yvon had a great sophomore year and we would like to build on that, but we also know other teams are going to try to stop him," said Marino. "We'll look to get the ball to our other receivers, who are good players. And we may feature our tight end more."

Despite the wealth of talent and experience, it's going to be difficult for the Owls to duplicate the 2001 special season. But they have snapped on their chinstraps and are ready for the new challenges.

"The players are all excited and looking forward to it," said Marino.

2002-2003

2002-2003

Owls Gridiron Outlook

Sept. 2002

Offensive Line

The Owls are loaded with experience up front with four returning starters on guard Dave Duquette, center Bob Bryne, and tackles Doug Kaczmarczyk and Pete Feeley. Duquette and Kaczmarcyzk were both ECAC All New England and all-conference selections last season. Bryne, a junior, is starting for the third consecutive season. Vying for the other guard position and junior Ken Gebo, who sat out last season with an injury, are sophomore first-year player Pat Andrus. The starters provide a formidable front, with an average weight of approximately 260 pounds. Head coach Steve Marino is concerned, however, that the offensive front lacks depth and overall experience. All but one of the seven reserves are freshman. The best of the bunch thus far is Chuck Monfett of Holyoke.

Offensive Backs

Quarterback Chris Lapointe returns after a solid first year for the Owls in which he passed for 1,528 yards and 15 touchdowns despite missing two games. Lapointe's play selection is expected to be more varied this year with the graduation of running back Shawn Lyman, who set a single-season school rushing record. In addition, opponents will be gearing to stop the potent passing tandem of Lapointe and wide receiver Matt Yvon. Seniors Bob Arnett and Jesse Phelps are the reserve quarterbacks. Phelps is a versatile player who also will see action as a utility back. Sophomore Don Jones of Springfield will be the main focus at running back. While not possessing the size, and maturity of Lyman, the 5-6, 170 pound Jones proved to be a valuable backup last season when he rushed for 527 yards on 111 carries. Jones has the speed to break off long runs and is shifty and durable enough to run inside. The reserve running backs – freshmen José Molina (5-9, 180) and Jay Abair (5-8, 173) are "good but small", according to Marino. The starting fullback will be senior Tom Walsh, who also may see action at tight end. Freshmen Mark Puchalski of South Deerfield and Dan Navin are vying for time at the blocking back.

Receivers/Tight Ends

The receiving corps remains nearly intact from last season. Junior Matt Yvon did not have a sophomore jinx in 2001 as he set five school records, including receptions (58) and touchdowns receptions in a season (10). The 6-2, 210 pounder from nearby East Longmeadow was a second team All New England selection and first team all-conference. Junior Erik Consilvio (11 catches in 2001) will start at the other receiver slot. The top reserves are sophomore David Trueira and freshman Joe Holleran. The Owls may feature the tight end more in their play selection, especially with 6-5, 250-pound Brian Matuszko of South Deerfield in the game. Kevin Vaughn of Chicopee provides solid depth at tight end.

Defensive Line

The defensive front is another team strength despite the graduation of two starters – Derek Jeppe and standout end Tim Corr. The leaders are senior end John Cloutier of Chicopee and junior tackle Stevie Faniel. Cloutier had an outstanding 2001 season that was overlooked by the all-conference voters, as he ranked third for the Owls with 57 tackles, including seven sacks and a school record 22 tackles for losses. Faniel, a 6-2, 280-pounder, has been a starter since his freshman year. Senior Jaret Foley, who has seen action at both linebacker and defensive line during his first three years, is the other starter at defensive tackle. Sophomore end Jessie Holmes, an athletic 6-2, 195 pounder from Springfield, completes the starting front four. The Owls have a talented group of underclassmen reserves: sophomore tackles Sal Calabrese and Casey Lawrence, sophomore end Jay LaValley of Ware, and freshman end Justin Sargent of Nashua, N.H. Both LaValley and Sargent were all state players in high school.

Linebackers

With three returners starters, including the reigning New England Player of the Year, Westfield has the potential to be as dominating as it was in 2001 when it led the nation in total defense. Senior middle linebacker Josue Zamora had a storybook first year of collegiate football as he was a first team All American, the New England Division II/III Player of the Year, and a unanimous selection as the New England Football Conference Defensive Player of the Year. The quick, hard-hitting Hartford native had 113 tackles and four blocked kicks. The other starting linebackers are junior Mike Hurteau of Troy, N.Y., who was the team's second leading tackler last season, and senior Dan Fitzgerald of Fall River, the fourth leading tackler. Talented sophomores Chris Brown, Dave Granados and Matt Wooliver are the reserves. Westfield also has a promising group of freshman linebackers, including Luis Jiminez and Chris Meyer. "The younger players will have a chance to grow, which will be good," said Marino.

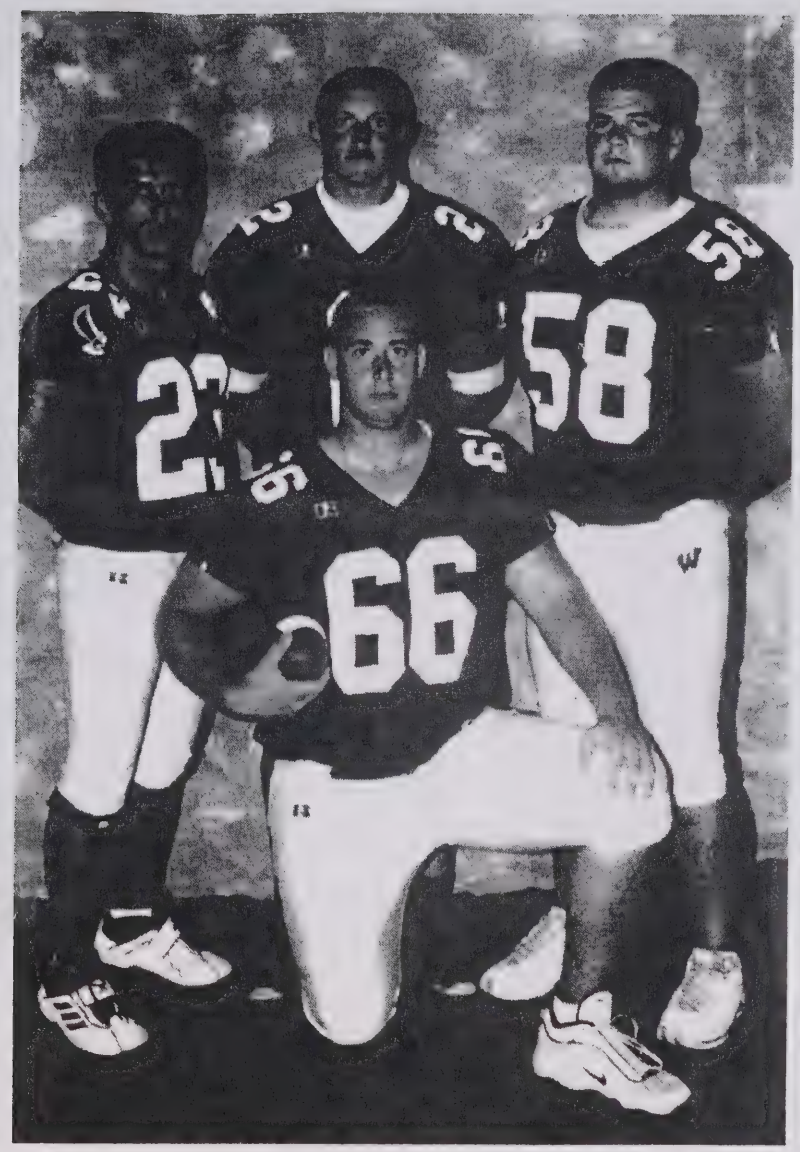
Defensive Backs

The Owls have a veteran group of players returning in seniors Ryan Clifford, Al Gates, Jason Olivari and Aaron Ragland. Clifford was an All New England and all-conference pick in 2001. The 6-0, 210-pound free safety had a team-high six interceptions, and was second in pass breakups (12) and sixth in tackles (48). Ragland tied a school record with 13 pass breakups, while Gates intercepted three passes and ranked seventh with 38 tackles. Olivari intercepted three passes for the Owls, who ranked second nationally in pass defense. Marino is very concerned about his team's lack of depth at d-back, however. All seven reserves are first-year players. Freshmen Billy Cruz and Adam Fontaine, both from Northampton, may see playing time.

Specialty Teams

Handling the punting chores will be Bob Arnett or freshman Marc Rogers, a reserve quarterback from South Hadley. The Owls have short and long placekicking specialists. Ryan Clifford converted on 26 of 33 extra point and 2 of 3 field goals attempts in his first year of kicking in 2001. Senior Matt Goncalves, a former soccer player for the Owls, will kick off. "Anything inside the 20 (for field goals) we'll probably go with Ryan," said Marino. "Matt can kick the ball deep, inside the 10 with air underneath it." Al Gates will be punt returner; he returned 23 punts for 166 yards a year ago. Returning kicks will be Jason Olivari and David Trueira.

2002-2003



Sept. 2002

WESTFIELD STATE FOOTBALL CAPTAINS: Kneeling, Doug Kaczmarczyk. Standing, left to right, Al Gates, Ryan Clifford, Dave Duquette.

2001-2003

Westfield State Football Cheerleaders

Sept. 2002

First row, left to right:
Dawn LaBorde, Kate Sandoval, Adriana Gomez, Lindsay Callahan, Erin Molloy, Jen Wilson, Amanda Drew.
Second row:
Megan Dickinson, Amelia Ahlen, Krissy Powderly, Kim Kordana, Nicole Ferris, Kelly Tranter, Kate Maurer.
Third row:
Shannon Walsh, Kristen Brady, Stacy Poutas, Erin McKenna, Liz Chapman, Kate Deneen, Katie Fitzgerald.

Sara May is the new head coach of the Westfield State women's volleyball team. For the past six years, May was the head volleyball coach at Enfield, Conn., High School. She graduated from Central Connecticut State in the fall of 2001 with a psychology degree.

Final Scores

Men's Soccer
Williams 7 - Westfield 0
Springfield 1 - Westfield 0

Women's Soccer
Keene State 3 - Westfield 1
Western Conn. 1 - Westfield 0
Springfield 1 - Westfield 0

Field Hockey
Becker 5 - Westfield 0
RPI 8 - Westfield 0
Westfield 5 - Elms 0

Volleyball
Westfield 3 - MCLA 0
WNEC 3 - Westfield 0
Westfield 3 - Pine Manor 0
Plymouth St. 3 - Westfield 0

2002-2003

Westfield State athletics director Ken Magarian presents an Owl baseball hat to new head coach Tom Lo Ricco. *Photo By Mickey Curtis*

Lo Ricco Named Baseball Coach

The Westfield State College athletics department recently announced the hiring of Tom Lo Ricco as its new head baseball coach.

Lo Ricco comes to Westfield State from Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, where he posted a six-year head coaching record of 112-101-2. He was named the Massachusetts State College Athletics Conference (MASCAC) co-coach of the year this past season when he led the North Adams, Mass., college to a 29-10-1 record and a berth in the ECAC Tournament. The 29 victories set a school record.

Lo Ricco was the MASCAC coach of the year in 2001 when Mass. College posted a 24-19 record and captured the ECAC championship.

"We are very excited to have a coach of Tom's caliber here at Westfield State," said Westfield State athletics director Ken Magarian. "He is an excellent recruiter and an extremely hard worker. He knows how to run a highly competitive Division III program."

Lo Ricco received his undergraduate degree in 1987 from UMass Amherst. He received a master's degree in physical education in 1995 from Springfield College, where he assisted with the baseball team for two years. From 1989 to 1993, Lo Ricco was the head coach at his high school alma mater - Quaboag Regional in Warren, Mass.

"Coaching at Westfield State is a great opportunity for me," said Lo Ricco. "The location of the college is excellent for recruiting, and my wife and I are now a little closer to our families."

2002-2003

Owls Cruise To 30-0 Football Win Over Western New England

Sept. 2002

SPRINGFIELD – Junior quarterback Chris Lapointe passed for 113 yards and two touchdowns, and sophomore halfback Don Jones ran for a game-high 118 yards as Westfield State opened its 2002 football season with an easy 30-0 shutout victory over Western New England College on Sept. 14.

The Owls, ranked first in the nation last year in total defense, held the Golden Bears to 26 net offensive yards on 48 plays, including minus 23 yards rushing on 30 attempts.

Westfield State led 10-0 at halftime on a 16-yard pass from Lapointe to junior wide receiver Matt Yvon at the 10:07 mark of the first quarter, and a 28-yard field goal by senior Ryan Clifford with 4:31 left before intermission. Yvon finished with 6 catches for 92 yards.

The Owls scored twice in the third quarter on a one-yard pass from Lapointe to Jones and a one-yard run by senior fullback Tom Walsh. Freshman running back Jose Molina scored his first collegiate touchdown on a 19-yard run in the fourth quarter to complete the scoring. He gained 76 yards on 11 carries.

"Donnie Jones took a little while to get his feet under him in the early going," said head coach Steve Marino. "Maybe he was a little tentative, but once he got motoring he was going."

"All of my yards I definitely attribute to the offensive line. I cannot accept any credit for those yards," said Jones, who also caught three passes. "It's definitely the work of the offensive line and my fullback, Tom Walsh, and I'm just the recipient of outstanding blocking."

Westfield, the defending New England Football Conference champions, finished with 324 yards in total offense.

WNEC only had two first downs in the game and had the ball in Westfield State territory once.

"Defensively, we still have plenty of room for improvement," said senior captain Al Gates. "Even though we dominated statistically, we still made a lot of mental mistakes. They are the type of mistakes that we can't make when we play teams like Nichols and Worcester State."

The Golden Bears' only scoring opportunity came in the first period following an Owls turnover at their 35. Three plays later senior All America linebacker Josue Zamora intercepted a pass and at the Westfield 20 and returned it 45 yards to end the threat. Zamora finished with a team-high seven tackle with four tackles for losses and a sack.

"One game doesn't make a season, and we have a ways to go yet," said Marino. "WNEC is a young team, so they struggled a little bit."

Westfield State, which finished with a school record 10-1 mark last year, has now won 11 straight regular season games.

Westfield's next home game is Saturday, Oct. 5, when it [illegible] conference rival Worcester State.

Gold Helmet Award

Northeastern University strong safety Kurt Abrams, left, and Westfield State quarterback Chris Lapointe were recipients of the Gold Helmet Award for their performances in games on Sept. 21. Lapointe was selected the New England Division 2/3 player of the week as he threw for a school-record five touchdown passes in the Owls' big win over Nichols. Abrams had two interceptions, including a 98-yard touchdown return, in Northeastern's 42-17 victory over UMass Amherst. The awards were presented last Wednesday at the New England sportswriters weekly luncheon at Harvard University. *Photo By Mickey Curtis*

Lapointe Named Player of Week

Westfield State College junior quarterback Chris Lapointe received the prestigious Gold Helmet Award as the New England Division II/III Player of the Week for his record-setting performance against conference rival Nichols College on Sept. 21.

Lapointe rifled a school record five touchdown passes in an impressive 40-13 victory, which was a rematch of last season's New England Football Conference championship game. His touchdown passes to three different receivers covered 35, 31, 8, 20, and 15 yards. For the game, the 6-3, 240-pounder from Millers Falls (Turners Falls High School) completed 10 of 24 passes for 161 yards before leaving the game midway through the fourth quarter.

Lapointe held the previous school record of four touchdown passes, which he set last season vs. Bridgewater State. He is the first Westfield State player to win the weekly Gold Helmet Award in 17 years. Chicopee's Joe Champigney received the Gold Helmet by rushing for 232 yards vs. Curry College in 1985. Westfield State All America middle linebacker Josue Zamora did win the Gold Helmet Award as the New England Player of the Year in 2001.

"This is a great honor for me but I have to give a lot of the credit to my offensive linemen; I didn't get sacked the entire game," said Lapointe after accepting his award at the weekly New England football writers luncheon at Harvard University on Wednesday. "My receivers also played well. They do an excellent job of running with the ball after they catch it."

Westfield's next home game is a huge one as it hosts Worcester State on Oct. 5 in a rematch of last season's divisional and Mass. State Conference championship game.

2002 - 2003

2001-2003

Owls Handle Nichols, 40-13, In Early Season Showdown

Sept 2002

WESTFIELD, Mass. – The rematch was no match.

Junior quarterback Chris Lapointe (Millers Falls, MA) threw a school record five touchdown passes and the opportunistic Westfield State offense took advantage of five Nichols College turnovers to lead the Owls to a convincing 40-13 victory over the Bison in a New England Football Conference game on Sept. 21.

The nondivisional game was a rematch on last season's NEFC championship game, won by Westfield State, 12-0. Westfield improved to 2-0 this season as it won its 12th consecutive regular season game. Nichols is 1-2.

Lapointe fired five scoring tosses despite only completing 10 of 24 passes for 161 yards. The 6-3, 240-pounder held the previous school record of four touchdown passes he set a year ago vs. Bridgewater State.

"Our quarterback stepped up today," said head coach Steve Marino. "He threw touchdown passes to three different guys today, and he checked off a number of times, and one of the checks turned into a touchdown."

Westfield opened the scoring midway through the first quarter on a spectacular 35-yard pass-run play by junior standout receiver Matt Yvon (East Longmeadow, MA), who broke at least four tackles on his way to the endzone. Yvon finished with four receptions for 63 yards and two touchdowns.

"I caught the ball and just kept running hard and kept my legs going, and luckily, I broke off some tacklers and got into the endzone," said Yvon.

Nichols made the score 7-6 on the ensuing series when quarterback Nick Perron threw a 23-yard touchdown pass to Ben Karter. Perron completed 16 of 40 passes for 173 yards and two touchdowns, but he threw two interceptions and was sacked three times.

Perron also lost three fumbles, including a late first-quarter fumble at the Nichols 31. On the next play, Lapointe fired a scoring strike to junior receiver Erik Consilvio (Arlington, MA), who outjumped the defender for the catch. Consilvio finished with three catches for 71 yards and two touchdowns.

"It's a credit to our whole defense to contain a team like Nichols," said senior captain and strong safety Al Gates. "Everybody does their job, and things opened up for everybody else."

The Owls scored 43 seconds before halftime on an 11-yard run by sophomore back Don Jones (Springfield, MA), who rushed for a game-high 109 yards on 24 carries.

Westfield took a commanding 33-6 third-quarter lead on touchdown receptions by Yvon and Consilvio. Lapointe exited the game with 8:48 remaining in the fourth quarter following his record setting touchdown pass of 15 yards to sophomore David Trueira.

Back Aaron Ragland and Josue Zamora led the Owls' balanced defensive attack with eight tackles apiece. Linemen Jessie Holmes and John Cloutier both recorded a sack and forced a fumble. Gates and backfield mate Jason Olivari both had four tackles and an interception.

Volleyball Player of Week

Westfield State senior volleyball player Tasha Goulet was named Mass. State Conference Player of the Week as she led the Owls to victories over Salem State and Fitchburg State in the Owls' conference openers. Goulet totaled 25 kills, 12 aces, 12 digs and six blocks in the tri-match. The Owls outlasted Salem State 30-27, 30-28, 28-30, 27-30, 15-12, and came back to defeat Fitchburg 21-30, 30-8, 30-25, 30-19.

Weekly Results

Men's Soccer
Keene State 2 - Westfield 0
Brandeis 2 - Westfield 0

Women's Soccer
MIT 4 - Westfield 0

Field Hockey
So. Maine 1 - Westfield 0
Plymouth St. 3 - Westfield 0

Volleyball
Westfield 3 - Lasell 0
Westfield 3 - Salem 2
Westfield 3 - Fitchburg

Women's Cross Country
UMass Dartmouth Invitational
19th place (37 Teams)
TOP FINISHERS: Heather Wenninger, 36th, 19:20.92; Catie Geldert, 109th, 20:35:55; Aimee Worcester, 120th, 20:45.62; Sheila Mulherin,169th, 21:55.87; Laura Hurley, 170th, 21:59.25; Alyssa Reid, 171st, 22:00.29; KellyRose O'Brien, 185th, 22:43.22.

Men's Cross Country
UMass Dartmouth Invitational
14th place (31 Teams)
TOP FINISHERS: Tom Bousquet, 33rd, 26:40.95; Geoff Churchill, 63rd, 27:23.04; Andy Barron, 87th, 28:12.02; Matt Frederick, 91st, 28:17.31; Jay Cunha, 105th, 28:35.32; Nick Burke, 123rd, 29:06.5; Matt Pieroway, 139th, 29:41.34.

Hall Of Famers

Six former Westfield State athletic greats were inducted into the college's Athletics Hall of Fame at the enshrinement ceremonies on Sept. 7 in Scanlon Banquet Hall. First row, left to right, are: Mark Pananos (baseball, Class of 1977); Lori (Vincent) Hadley (swimming and diving, '91); Mitch Longley (track and field, '86). Second row: Rob Quinn (lacrosse, '89); Peter Laviolette (hockey, '86); and Ken McCarron (soccer, '76). More than 200 people attended the eighth annual Hall of Fame inductions.

Photo By Mickey Curtis

2002-2003

There were many dignitaries in attendance Sept. 26 at the historic groundbreaking ceremonies of the academic and athletic complex being constructed on the Westfield State campus. The long-awaited field house is scheduled to open in January of 2004. *Photo By Mickey Curtis*

Cross Country Squads Place High At Invitational

WENHAM – The Westfield State men's and women's cross country teams finished first and third, respectively, at the Pop Crowell Invitational held Sept. 28 at Gordon College.

Westfield nipped Roger Williams College, 41-42, to take the title in the 12-team men's meet. Senior Tom Bousquet of Chicopee was the individual winner with a time of 27:37. Sophomore Geoff Churchill, the Mass. State Conference rookie of the year in 2001, placed sixth (28:18), followed closely by junior Andy Barron (7th, 28:22).

Sophomore Matt Frederick finished 11th (28:39) and freshman William Davidian was 16th (29:33). Also placing in the top 20 were senior Nick Burke (19th, 29:47) and junior Jay Cunha (20th, 29:55).

In the 13-team women's meet, the Owls compiled 89 points to trail U-Maine Farmington and Roger Williams, which tied for the team title with 67 points apiece.

Freshman Heather Wenninger of Chicopee finished third individually with a time of 19:47. Other top runners for the Owls were: junior Aimee Worcester (13th, 21:30), sophomore Sarah Clark of Westhampton (22nd, 22:13), freshman Sheila Mulherin (23rd, 22:14), senior Laura Hurley (28th, 22:34), and senior Alyssa Reid (29th, 22:34).

Westfield No. 2 runner Catie Geldert did not compete in the invitational.

The Westfield teams competed this past Saturday at the Dickinson College Invitational at Carlisle, Pa.

2002 - 2003

Owls Handle Fitchburg, 19-7

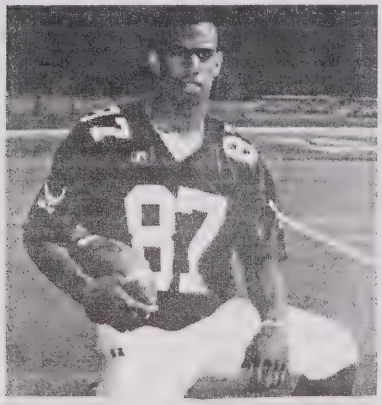
Oct. 2002

By Mickey Curtis

FITCHBURG- Junior wide receiver Matt Yvon (East Longmeadow, MA) caught 11 passes for 98 yards and a touchdown as Westfield State rallied for a 19-7 New England Football Conference victory over Fitchburg State.

Westfield, 3-0 overall and winners of 13 straight regular season games, earned its first victory in the Bogan Division of the NEFC as it battled back from a 7-0 halftime deficit. The highly-ranked Owls defense began the game without five starters, including first team All America linebacker Josue Zamora, who was sidelined with a leg injury.

But for the second straight season Westfield came from behind at Fitchburg with a strong second-half effort. Last season the Owls erupted for four fourth-quarter touchdowns in a 28-15 defeat of the Falcons.



Yvon, whose first catch of the game came on the final play of the first half, scored on a six-yard pass reception to get the Owls on the scoreboard with 5:32 left in the third quarter. Matt Goncalves' extra point attempt was wide and Westfield still trailed 7-6.

The Westfield defense, which limited Fitchburg to 27 yards of total offense in the second half, stuffed the Falcons on their next series and Owl freshman Chris Meyer blocked a punt that was recovered at the 25. Sophomore Don Jones (Springfield, MA) scored the game-winning touchdown on a four-yard run. Jones finished with 82 yards on 26 carries, including 58 second-half yards.

Westfield clinched the hard-fought victory with a time-consuming fourth-quarter drive of 16 plays and 82 yards that lasted 7:35. The Owls scored with 1:02 left in the game on a one-yard run by freshman fullback Mark Pulchaski (South Deerfield).

Yvon had big receptions inside the 5 on both of the final two Westfield scores.

"Matt actually dropped some passes today but he also made some great catches in clutch situations," said Marino.

Fitchburg (1-2 overall) scored in the first quarter on a three-yard touchdown pass from Michael

2002 - 2003

Fall Sports Roundup

Oct. 2002

Ramapo, NJ 1 – Men's Soccer 0

WESTFIELD – Sophomore midfielder Norman Crochetiere (Hamilton, NJ) scored the game's only goal in the 78th minute to lead Ramapo College of New Jersey past Westfield State College.

Crochetiere's game-winning shot was short hopped by Westfield goalie Brian Ginisi, but Ginisi lost possession of the ball and it rolled past him into the goal.

Ramapo improved to 6-1-1 while Westfield dropped to 1-5-1. Westfield was shut out for the sixth consecutive game.

Westfield hosts local rival Elms College on Tuesday, Oct. 8, at 7:00 p.m.

Volleyball Results

AMHERST – The Westfield State College women's volleyball team placed 12th in the highly competitive Amherst Invitational on Sept. 27-28.

Westfield fell 3-0 to MIT and Wesleyan on Friday. In the bronze medal round on Saturday, the Owls were swept by both Western Connecticut and Trinity.

Westfield hosts Mass Maritime in conference action on Tuesday, Oct. 8, at 6:00 p.m.

Women's Soccer 3
Rhode Island College 0

PROVIDENCE – Junior Jess Silva (Reading) scored two first-half goals to lead Westfield State to its first victory of the season, a 3-0 decision over Rhode Island College.

Freshman Carly Czubryt (Adams) scored her first collegiate goal in the 86th minute.

The win snapped a five-game winless streak for the 1-4-1 Owls, while the 3-4 Anchorwomen dropped their third straight game.

Westfield's next home game is Saturday, Oct. 12, vs. Framingham at 6:00 p.m.

Field Hockey 1 – AIC 0

WESTFIELD – Junior forward Theresa Yacovone (East Longmeadow) scored the game-winning goal with 27 minutes remaining to lift Westfield State to a 1-0 victory over local Division 2 rival American International College on Sept. 26.

Westfield's record is 2-6 as it snapped a four-game losing skid. AIC dropped to 0-6.

Fitchburg 1 - Field Hockey 0

WESTFIELD – The Westfield State College field hockey team dropped a 1-0 decision to Fitchburg State in its Mass. State Conference opener on Wednesday, Oct. 2.

The Owls are now 2-7 overall. Fitchburg is 3-5 and 1-1 in the conference.

Fitchburg's Jenn Kelley scored the only goal midway through the first half. Westfield outshot Fitchburg, 18-11, and dominated play in the second half, just missing several scoring opportunities.

Fitchburg freshman goalie Christina Charron made 11 saves, including a Westfield penalty stroke attempt in the second half.

Westfield State Ice Hockey Tickets On Sale

Tickets for the Westfield State ice hockey team's home games are now on sale in the athletics office (Ely 244) or at Amelia Park Rink (on game day).

Season tickets for the 10-game home schedule are $10 for students and $15 for staff/faculty. Single-game tickets are $2 for students and $3 for faculty/staff.

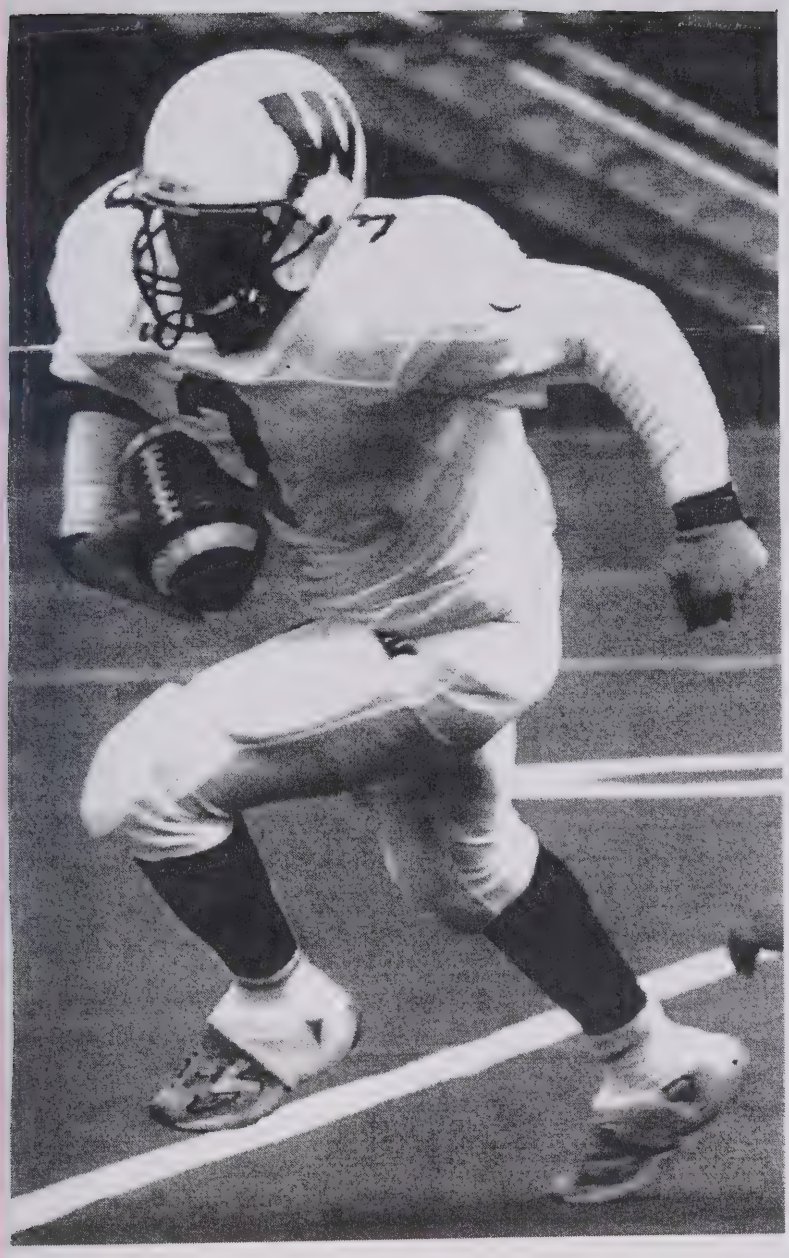
For those not affiliated with the college, season passes are $25 for adults and $15 for students and senior citizens. Children 12 and under are admitted free.

The home opener is Oct. 12.

2002-2003 Ice Hockey Home Schedule

	October		
Sat.	12	Bryant College	5:15
	November		
Sat.	2	WNEC	5:15
Sat.	9	Stony Brook	5:15
Fri.	15	Siena	8:15
Sun.	17	SUNY-Albany	6:15
Sat.	30	Montclair State, NJ	5:15
	December		
Sat.	7	TBA	5:15
	January		
Fri.	24	Central Connecticut	8:15
Fri.	31	New York University	8:15
	February		
Sat.	1	Marist	5:15

2002-2003



Sophomore running back Don Jones of Springfield Central High School was named the New England Football Conference offensive player of the week. The 5-6, 170-pounder rushed for 204 yards on 37 carries - both career highs - in the Owls' big 17-13 victory over Worcester State.

File Photo By David Harris-Fried

OCT. 2002

Ice Hockey Home Game Season Tickets On Sale

Tickets for the Westfield State ice hockey team's home games are now on sale in the athletics office (Ely 244) or at Amelia Park Rink (on game day).

Season tickets for the home schedule are $10 for students and $15 for staff/faculty. Single-game tickets are $2 for students and $3 for faculty/staff.

For those not affiliated with the college, season passes are $25 for adults and $15 for students and senior citizens. Children 12 and under are admitted free.

2002-2003 Ice Hockey Home Schedule

November			
Sat.	2	WNEC	5:15
Sat.	9	Stony Brook	5:15
Fri.	15	Siena	8:15
Sun.	17	SUNY-Albany	6:15
Sat.	30	Montclair State, NJ	5:15
January			
Fri.	24	Central Connecticut	8:15
Fri.	31	New York University	8:15
February			
Sat.	1	Marist	5:15

Men's Soccer Defeats Elms, Salem State

Men's Soccer 3 – Elms 2

WESTFIELD – The Westfield State College men's soccer team recorded a 3-2 victory over Elms College of Chicopee on Tuesday, Oct. 8.

It was the first game ever between the two colleges. Westfield upped its record to 3-5-1, while Elms is 5-4.

Elms scored first, with 16 minutes left in the first half, on a goal by Ethan Percy following a scramble in front of the net. The Owls then struck for two goals in a 1:03 span late in the first half to take a 2-1 lead.

Senior Chris Whalley of Southwick was credited with the first goal, with 3:08 remaining, when his wicked shot of a direct kick deflected off a Elms defender into the net. Whalley set up the second goal on another free kick. Freshman Billy Campbell directed Whalley's kick to Joe Calabrese, whose blasted the ball into the right corner.

The Owls took a 3-1 lead with 17 minutes left in the game when Jeff Whittaker blasted in a rebound following a shot by Jay Chelo. Elms scored with 43 seconds remaining in the game.

For the second straight game, sophomore Brian Ginisi and freshman Adam Crawford split the goalkeeping duties for Westfield.

Men's Soccer 1 – Salem State 0

WESTFIELD – The Westfield State men's soccer team won its Mass. State Conference opener with a 1-0 victory over rival Salem State on Saturday evening, Oct. 5.

Freshman Billy Campbell (Stoneham) scored the game-winning goal with 28 minutes remaining on a header off a corner kick from senior captain Chris Whalley (Southwick).

The Owls outshot Salem, 11-10. Sophomore Brian Ginisi (8 saves) and freshman Adam Crawford (2 saves) split the goalkeeping with Crawford earning the victory.

2002-2003

Owls Edge Worcester In Football Showdown

By Mickey Curtis, SID

WESTFIELD – Sophomore running back Don Jones (Springfield, MA) rushed for a career high 204 yards on 37 carries and scored a touchdown to lead Westfield State to a thrilling 17-13 victory over Worcester State in a midseason showdown between two New England Football Conference powerhouses.

Westfield, winners of 14 straight regular season games, improved to 4-0 overall and 2-0 in the Bogan Division of the NEFC. Worcester State is 4-1 overall and 0-1 in the division.

The clash pitted Westfield's No. 1 rated defense vs. Worcester's top-ranked offense, and for the second straight season the Owls held on to defeat the Lancers by four points. Last year Westfield edged Worcester, 34-30, in the final game of the regular season when both teams were unbeaten.

Similar to last season, the game ended in dramatic fashion with Worcester State driving for a potential game-winning score. Worcester State had a first down at the Westfield 23 with just under two minutes remaining in the game, but the Lancers' record-setting junior quarterback Cean Oksanish (Grafton) threw three incompletions following a Worcester holding call, then Westfield ran out the final 1:05.

The 5-6, 170-pound Jones gave Westfield a 7-0 lead with a 29-yard touchdown scamper midway through the first quarter to cap a seven-play, 80-yard drive. Westfield drove 67 yards on 12 plays on their next possession, taking a 10-0 lead on a 30-yard field goal by Ryan Clifford.

Eight of Jones' career-high 37 carries were consecutive rushes that took valuable time off the fourth-quarter clock with Westfield clinging to its slim lead.

"We don't keep track of how many times (in a row) he carries the ball, when he gets tired he'll come out," Marino said. "He's one of those guys who has to get the ball a lot, he needs his engine warmed up."

Worcester State scored with 11:09 left in the first half on a two-yard run by Oksanish that capped a four-play, 68-yard drive. Westfield, though, scored its final points with 13 seconds remaining in the second quarter on a spectacular, leaping seven-yard touchdown reception by Matt Yvon (East Longmeadow) in the left corner to take a 17-7 halftime edge.

"Worcester kept calling for a slant pass up the middle, that's the play we beat them with last year," said Yvon. "So we went with the "dog" pattern, where I start towards the middle then fade to the corner."

Worcester struck quickly for its final points with 2:30 left in the third quarter. On the first play of the two-play drive, Oksanish completed a 48-yard bomb to receiver Greg Lunn to the one-yard line. Following a false start penalty, Greg Wood scored from six yards out. The pass conversion attempt failed.

Oksanish completed 13 of 38 passes for 218 yards and one interception, the game's only turnover. The Owls limited the potent Worcester ground game to 70 net yards on 28 rushes.

"We knew we couldn't give him time because he'd just pick us apart," said senior defensive lineman Jaret Foley. "Worcester is a great team with big-play potential."

Westfield junior quarterback Chris Lapointe completed 12 of 26 passes for 128 yards. Yvon, who also played in the defensive secondary in the fourth quarter, had four receptions for 33 yards. Erik Consilvio had four receptions for 57 yards.

First team All America middle linebacker Josue Zamora of Hartford led the Westfield nationally-ranked defense with 11 tackles, including eight solos. Sophomore end Jessie Holmes (Springfield) had five tackles and two sacks.

"They have such high power offense, you just try to control them, you're not going to stop them," Marino said. "We didn't blitz much, and one time we did we got burned, but the front four did a great job. Jessie Holmes is so quick and John Cloutier is so strong at end."

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Fall Sports Roundup

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Volleyball 3 – Mass Maritime 0

WESTFIELD – The Westfield State women's volleyball team swept Mass. Maritime Academy 30-17, 30-22, 30-15, in conference action Tuesday, Oct. 8.

The Owls are 6-10 overall and 3-0 in the Mass. State Conference.

Junior Rachel Allgaier recorded 25 assists and six service aces, while sophomore Amy Svatik had 18 digs. Senior captain Katelyn Foley led a balanced offensive attack with 10 kills. Junior Leah Schmidt had eight kills, and juniors Sarah Lund and Andrea Tessier both registered seven kills.

The Owls are idle Oct. 15 when they host Amherst College at 7:00.

Keene State 3 – Volleyball 0

KEENE, N.H. - Keene State swept a three-game match vs. Westfield State in nonconference action on Friday, Oct. 4.

Overcoming early deficits in each game, Keene posted game score wins of 30-23, 30-19, and 30-21.

Senior Tasha Goulet led Westfield with nine kills, 12 digs and three aces. Freshman Danielle Mainini finished with eight kills, nine digs and one block.

Worcester 1 – Field Hockey 0

WORCESTER – The Westfield State College field hockey team lost in double overtime, 1-0, to Worcester State on Tuesday, Oct. 8.

The Owls are 2-9 overall and 0-3 in the Mass State Conference. All three conference losses have been 1-0 scores. Worcester is 6-4 overall and 3-0 in the conference.

Worcester, which outshot Westfield, 24-12, scored the game-winning goal with 10:08 left in the second overtime.

Framingham 1 – Field Hockey 0

FRAMINGHAM – The Westfield State field hockey team suffered a 1-0 conference loss to Framingham State on Saturday, Oct. 5.

Framingham scored the winning goal in the third minute of the game. Westfield outshot Framingham, 13-12.

Westfield is now 2-8 overall.

Women's Soccer 4 – Elms 0

CHICOPEE – The Westfield State College women's soccer team cruised to a 4-0 victory over Elms College on Wednesday, Oct. 9.

The Owls are 2-5-1 overall while Elms fell to 4-5.

Westfield scored all of its goals in the first 14 minutes. Sophomore Tara McDonough of Palmer netted her first two goals of the season. Sophomore Laurel Koziol of Russell and junior Ali Jordan of Ware also scored. Junior Jess Silva of Reading had two assists.

The Owls outshot Elms, 36-5.

Salem 2 – Women's Soccer 0

SALEM – The Westfield State women's soccer team was shut out by Salem, 2-0, in its Mass. State Conference opener.

The Owls, 1-5-1 overall, outshot Salem, 7-3.

Men's Cross Country

CARLISE, Pa. – The Westfield State men's cross country team competed in the Dickinson College long/short course invitational on Saturday, Oct. 5.

The Owls, the only New England team in the meet, placed 14th in the 21-team meet. In the 6,000 meter short course race, Westfield's top finisher was senior Tom Bousquet, who placed 12th in 5:17.4. Sophomore Geoff Churchill was 26th in 5:27.8.

In the 8,000 meter race, senior Nick Burke finished 65th in 29:34.6.

Women's Cross Country

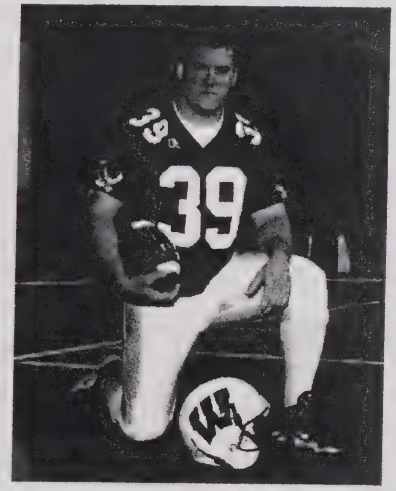
CARLISLE, Pa. – The Westfield State women's cross country team placed 12th out of 20 teams in the Dickinson College long/short course invitational on Saturday, Oct. 5.

In the 6,000 meter race, freshman Heather Wenninger of Chicopee was Westfield's top finisher with a time of 24:14.79. In the 4,000 meter run, freshman Sheila Mulherin finished 30th in 16:56.2.

Westfield State is hosting men's and women's meets the next two Saturdays at Stanley Park - the James Earley Invitational on Oct. 19 and the Mass. State Conference championships on Oct. 26.

2002-2003

Owls Best Bridgewater; Remain Unbeaten



Senior end John Cloutier of Chicopee was named to the NEFC weekly honor roll. Cloutier had six tackles, including 2 1/2 sacks, vs. Bridgewater State. Cloutier leads the conference in sacks (6 solos, two assists), and is third in tackles for losses (11.5).

BRIDGEWATER - Quarterback Chris Lapointe threw four touchdown passes and the nationally-ranked Westfield State defense limited Bridgewater State to 16 yards rushing, as the undefeated Owls rolled past the Bears 28-10 in New England Football Conference action on Oct. 19.

The Owls dominated from beginning to end, outrushing the Bears 180 to 16, with sophomore Don Jones leading the Westfield ground game with 101 yards on 28 carries. Westfield also controlled the clock, as their offense was on the field for more than 37 minutes of possession time.

With the win the Owls improved to 6-0 overall and 4-0 in the NEFC Bogan Division. Westfield, ranked first in New England and 30th nationally last week, has now won 16 straight regular season games. The Bears fell to 2-4 overall and 2-2 in divisional play.

BSC got on the board first on a 31 yard field goal by Jesse Mead, and led 3-0 after one quarter of play. That lead would be short-lived as Lapointe connected with Matt Yvon on a 4 yard touchdown pass to give Westfield the 6-3 lead with 10:19 remaining in the second quarter.

Westfield added a safety onto the second quarter scoring summary when BSC fumbled the ball in their own end zone. The Owls built that lead to 15-3 when Lapointe found Erik Consilvio for a 7 yard TD pass with just 31 seconds left in the first half. The conversion by Matt Goncalves gave Westfield the 15-3 lead into the locker room.

The second half was more of the same for Westfield State. The only scoring in the third quarter came when Lapointe tossed TD pass No. 3, once again connecting with Yvon on a five yard touchdown pass. The conversion by Goncalves gave the Owls a 22-3 lead.

Lapointe rounded out the scoring for the Owls with another touchdown strike, finding Erik Consilvio once again in the end zone with 12:12 left in the fourth quarter. The 14 yard TD pass capped out off a 6 play 20-yard scoring drive that began after the Owls recovered a fumble at the BSC 20 yard line.

BSC finally got the offense going in the final three minutes of the game, but it was a matter of too little too late. The Bears drove the ball 87 yards in just under three minutes, highlighted by a 44 yard touchdown pass from Adam Camobreco to Joe Sampson with 19 seconds left on the game clock.

Lapointe completed 15 of 31 passes for 107 yards in Westfield's balanced offense. He has thrown 17 touchdown passes this season with only three interceptions. Yvon, first in the conference in receiving, had six receptions for 51 yards. Consilvio caught five passes for 39 yards.

The Owls' balanced Blue Collar Defense was led by junior linebacker Mike Hurteau of Troy, N.Y., senior All America linebacker Josue Zamora of Hartford, and senior end John Cloutier of Chicopee. Cloutier continued his outstanding play with six tackles, including four tackles for losses and two and a half sacks. Hurteau had a team-high seven tackles, returned an interception 14 yards, and contributed to a sack. Zamora had five solo tackles and recovered a fumble. Casey Lawrence, filling in for injured tackle Jaret Foley, had six tackles and a forced fumble.

"This was the second year in a row that we won at Bridgewater State, which is a tough playce to play, so it was a good road victory for us," said senior captain Al Gates. "We thought the weather was going to play a major factor in the game but we did what we had to do both offensively and defensively to win."

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Fall Sports Roundup Oct. 2002

Men's Cross Country

WESTFIELD – The Westfield State College men's cross country team placed 12th out of 27 teams in the seventh annual James Earley Invitational at Stanley Park Oct. 19.

Tufts University won the meet with 72 points followed by MIT (85) and Coast Guard (108).

Chris Kapfer of King's Point finished first out of 305 competitors with a time of 25:12.10 over the 8,000 meter course. Westfield's top finisher was Tom Bousquet, who placed 34th in 26:47.50.

Westfield's other top finishers were sophomore Geoff Churchill (55th, 27:31) and sophomore Matt Frederick (59th, 27:42).

Women's Cross Country

WESTFIELD – The Westfield State women's cross country team finished 14th out of 26 teams in the seventh annual James Earley Invitational at Stanley Park Oct. 19.

Trinity College won the meet with 63 points followed by Tufts University (92) and Brandeis University (96p).

Marik Tansey Holbrook of Brandeis finished first out of 272 competitors with a time of 21:12.30 over the new 6,000 meter course. Springfield standout Marissa Clapp placed second in 21:15.70.

Westfield's top finisher was freshman Heather Wenninger (Chicopee), who placed 40th with a time of 24:01.80. The Owls' other top runners were freshman Sheila Mulherin (64th, 24:53.10) and senior Catie Geldert (78th, 25:25).

Women's Soccer 3 – MCLA 0

WESTFIELD – Sophomore forward Tara McDonough of Palmer scored two late second-half goals and junior back Ali Jordan scored the game-winning goal late in the first half to lead the Westfield to a 3-0 victory over MCLA.

Westfield dominated play for most of the game and outshot the Trailblazers, 16-3.

WNEC 3 – Women's Soccer 0

SPRINGFIELD – Senior co-captain Molly Burke (Westfield/St. Mary High School) scored a goal and added an assist to lead Western New England College to a 3-0 nonconference women's soccer victory over Westfield State on Monday, Oct. 21.

Burke's goal in the 78th minute was the school career record 94th.

Men's Soccer 3 – MCLA 0

WILLIAMSTOWN – The Westfield State men's soccer team posted a 3-0 road victory over conference rival MCLA.

Freshman Billy Campbell scored the game-winning goal in the 35th minute. Juniors Peter Fager and Jay Chelo scored insurance goals in the second half. Senior midfielder Chris Whalley assisted on the first two goals, while Joe Calabrese assisted on the final tally.

Mass. Marit. 1 – Men's Soccer 0

BUZZARDS BAY – Freshman Brendan Duggan scored with 59 seconds left in regulation to lift Mass. Maritime Academy to a big 1-0 conference victory over the Westfield State Oct. 22.

Duggan broke free from two defenders and launched a shot from 25 yards to the far corner of the goal. Westfield keeper Brian Ginisi stretched for the save but the shot went off his fingertips into the net.

Westfield had a major scoring opportunity when it was awarded a penalty kick with 3:46 remaining in the game. Senior Chris Whalley attempted to beat keeper Shawn Cassidy to his left but the shot was wide and hit the post.

Westfield is 3-2 in the conference and 5-7-1 overall heading into Friday evening's home game vs. Fitchburg State. Mass. Maritime is 2-3 in the conference and 8-5.

Women's Volleyball

WESTFIELD – Westfield State lost to Worcester State and Framingham State in a key conference tri-match on Oct. 19.

Framingham defeated the Owls 30-16, 29-31, 30-17, and 30-25. Worcester swept Westfield 30-23, 30-26, 30-19. Worcester bested Framingham, 3-1, in the other match.

Westfield dropped to 6-13 overall and 3-2 in the conference. Worcester is 13-5 and 4-2, while Framingham is 12-6 and 3-3.

Leah Schmidt of West Springfield had 12 kills, four aces and 12 digs for the Owls. Seniors Katelyn Foley and Tasha Goulet both had 13 kills, while sophomore Amy Svatik recorded 34 digs.

Volleyball 3 – Bay Path 0

WESTFIELD – The Westfield State women's volleyball team rolled to a 30-6, 30-25, 30-11 victory over Bay Path College on Tuesday, Oct. 22.

Westfield is 7-13 while Bay Path dropped to 4-7.

Junior Leah Schmidt of West Springfield had four kills and seven aces for the Owls, who substituted freely. Senior Katelyn Foley contributed seven kills, two aces and six digs. Sophomore Amy Svatik had a team-high 11 digs. Junior Andrea Tessier also had seven kills, while junior Rachel Allgaier finished with team-highs of six aces and 16 assists.

Salem State 1 – Field Hockey 0

WESTFIELD – Junior midfielder Jessica Horne hit a wicked crossing shot into the left corner of the goal in the third minute of overtime to lift Salem State to a 1-0 field hockey victory.

Westfield, which outshot Salem, 18-5, suffered its third 1-0 overtime loss this season.

Keene State 5 – Field Hockey 1

KEENE, N.H. – Junior defender Nichole Dallas had two goals and one assist to lead the Keene State field hockey team to a 5-1 Little East Conference victory over Westfield State Oct. 23

Keene improves to 6-2 in the conference and 11-6, while Westfield falls to 1-7 and 3-11.

Scoring a second-half goal for Westfield was Laura Scott with an assist from Renee Gahan.

2002-2003

Blue-Collar Defense Earns Westfield National Recognition

Oct. 2002

By Mickey Curtis, Sports Information Director

For the second consecutive year the Westfield State College football team has produced one of the top defenses in the NCAA Division III.

Entering Saturday's (Oct. 26) homecoming game vs. Framingham State, the undefeated Owls were ranked first nationally in three defensive statistical categories: total defense (150.3 yards per game allowed), passing defense (65.5 efficiency rating), and scoring defense (7.2 points per game allowed).

In total defense, the Owls were leading the No. 2 team by a staggering 50.2 yards per game. In addition, Westfield is second nationally in run defense (31.5 yards per game), and sixth in turnover margin (plus 13).

Winners of 16 straight regular season games, Westfield also led the nation in total defense in 2001 when it posted a perfect 10-0 regular season record and qualified for its first NCAA Tournament.

This season the Owls have been relying on a balanced blue-collar defense to achieve their lofty status. The starting unit is talented, experienced and plays well together.

Westfield's leading tackler is junior linebacker Mike Hurteau (Troy, N.Y.) with 38 stops, and seven other starters have 20 or more tackles. The defense is anchored by inside linebacker Josue Zamora (Hartford), a first-team All American and the New England Division 2/3 player of the year in 2001.

Up front, senior end John Cloutier (Chicopee) is having another outstanding season. He is ranked nationally in sacks (7) and tackles for losses (13). The defensive backfield has four senior standouts. Cornerbacks Jason Olivari (Baldwinville) and Aaron Ragland (Springfield) are ranked nationally and in the conference in passes defended. Olivari has four interceptions and six pass breakups and Ragland has three interceptions and seven breakups. Free safety Ryan Clifford (Waltham) is a returning All New England selection, and strong safety Al Gates (Ludlow) is a team captain, along with being a sure handed punt and kick returner.

Rounding out the starting unit are senior linebacker Dan Fitzgerald (Fall River) sophomore end Jessie Holmes (Springfield), junior tackle Stevie Faniel (Wareham), and senior tackle Jaret Foley (Tyngsboro).

"These guys are a great group to coach and to watch play," said 13th year head coach Steve Marino. "They just go out and get the job done."

Marino also praised seventh-year assistant coach Pete "Killer" Kowalski as the architect of one of the nation's top-ranked defenses the past two seasons.

"He (Kowalski) always has a well prepared game plan and the players are smart enough to follow it," said Marino.

Athletics Hires Grad. Assistant

Angie Jensen was recently named the new graduate assistant for the Westfield State athletics department. Jensen will provide academic support and monitor the student-athletes' study halls. Her office is located in Ely 246 and she can be reached at 572-5454.

Jensen is a 2002 graduate of Grinnell (Iowa) College. She is pursuing a master's degree in athletic counseling at Springfield College.

Owls Claim Men's Cross Country Championship

Churchill Leads Pack

By Mickey Curtis, SID

WESTFIELD – The Westfield State men's cross country team captured the Mass. State Conference championship with a strong finish on Saturday, Oct. 26, at Stanley Park in Westfield.

Westfield won the conference crown for the second time in four years and for the 14th time in the past 20 years.

The Owls placed five runners in the top 12 to finish with 30 points and easily outdistance Bridgewater State (52) and Fitchburg State (54).

Westfield sophomore Geoff Churchill, a native of Bridgewater, overtook Fitchburg's Matt Germain in the final 100 yards of the 8,000 kilometer race to win the individual title. Churchill, who was the conference rookie of the year last season, recorded a winning time of 26:51.75.

"That's probably the best finish I've seen since I've been here," said head coach Bob Rausch, now in his eighth year at Westfield State. "Geoff was patient and bided his time before making his move the last 200 yards and it paid off for him. He really got his feet going the last few minutes and looked much stronger than the other runners."

Germain finished in 26:53.37 and Westfield senior Tom Bousquet of Chicopee took third place in 26:56.35.

"Tom stayed near the front of the pack for most of the race," said Rausch. "He wanted to put himself in a position to win but he was just worn out at the end."

Fitchburg had three runners earn all conference honors by placing in the top seven, but they lacked Westfield's overall depth.

Junior Andy Barron (Millvale) also earned all conference honors for the Owls by finishing a strong sixth in 27:08.2. Sophomore Matt Frederick (10th, 27:43.66) and freshman William Davidian (12th, 27:46.9) rounded out the Westfield scoring.

"Andy Barron was the biggest surprise of the day," said Rausch. "He knocked 40 seconds off his personal best time. It was a huge, huge surprise for him to make all-conference. He was pumped up out there today."

Other top finishers for the Owls were senior Nick Burke (11th, 28:08.13) and junior Jay Cunha (16th, 28:32.75).

Sophomore Geoff Churchill overtakes Fitchburg State's Matt Germain near the finish line to win the Mass. State Conference cross country championships held Oct. 26 at Stanley Park. *Photos By David Harris-Fried*

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Women Place Second In MASCAC

WESTFIELD – The Westfield State women's cross country team finished second in the Mass. State Conference championships held Saturday, Oct. 26, at Stanley Park.

Bridgewater won the meet with 26 points, followed closely by Westfield with 29. Third-place Fitchburg finished with 89 points.

"I thought we had a good chance to win the meet," said head coach Bob Rausch. "If we could have had another one or two of our runners finish a little higher we could have pulled it off. But the entire team did run well today."

Westfield's first five runners finished in the top 13, but Bridgewater clinched the victory by placing three in the top five, and five in the top 14, including individual winner Kristen Iworsky, a senior who ran the 5,000 meter course in 19:28.82.

Westfield's Heather Wenninger (Chicopee) was the first freshman to cross the finish line as she placed third in 20:15.31. Teammate Sheila Mulherin (Norton), also a freshman, finished fourth in 20:21.53.

"I thought Heather may have had a chance for second place, but she went out a little too fast and it cost her at the end," said Rausch. "And Sheila Mulherin ran well. I wasn't expecting her to be up near the front but she ran strong the entire race."

Westfield's other top finishers were: senior Catie Geldert (9th, 20:41.83), junior Aimee Worcester (11th, 21:05.63), and senior Alyssa Reid (13th, 21:27.56). Also finishing in the top 20 were sophomore Sarah Clark (18th, 22:01.23), and senior Laura Hurley (19th, 22:10.34).

Fall Sports Roundup

Nov. 2002

WPI 4 – Men's Soccer 3

WORCESTER – Worcester Polytech raised its record to 13-2 with a 4-3 come-from-behind victory over the Westfield State.

. The Owls took a 2-0 halftime lead over the highly regarded Engineers on goals by juniors Jay Martins and Peter Fager in the final five minutes of the half.

Martins scored from a near impossible angle, then Fager made some nifty moves with just under a minute remaining.

WPI then erupted for four goals in a 13-minute span to take a 4-2 lead, beginning with a penalty kick in the 60th minute.

The Owls scored with eight minutes remaining on a goal by junior Joe Calabrese. Junior Jay Chelo assisted on two of Westfield's goals.

Men's Soccer 2 – Fitchburg 0

WESTFIELD – The Westfield State men's soccer team posted a 2-0 conference victory.

The West Springfield Connection of Peter Fager and Joe Calabrese combined to score the game-winning goal midway through the first half.

Senior forward Edgar Ortiz added an insurance tally in the 77th minute, with an assist from freshman Billy Campbell.

Bridgewater 3 - Volleyball 0

BRIDGEWATER – The Westfield State women's volleyball team lost to a strong Bridgewater State squad 25-30, 18-30, 26-30 on Tuesday, Oct. 30.

Westfield State dropped to 9-15 overall and finished Mass.State Conference regular season play with a 4-3 record. Bridgewater improved to 19-9 and placed first in the conference with a 7-0 record.

Senior Katelyn Foley and junior Leah Schmidt both had nine kills. Junior Rachel Allgaier was credited with 28 assists.

Volleyball 3 – Mass. College 0

NORTH ADAMS – The Westfield State women's volleyball team held on for a straight-set victory (31-29, 30-18, 30-27) over Massachusetts College.

The Owls overcame a 16-10 deficit in the first game and a 15-7 deficit in the third contest. Seniors Katelyn Foley and Tasha Goulet led the comeback victories.

Women's Volleyball Tri-Meet

NEW LONDON, Conn. – The Westfield State women's volleyball team split a tri-match Oct. 26.

The Owls swept Elms College 30-13, 30-9, 30-8, then were beaten by Connecticut College 23-30, 18-30, 17-30.

Senior Katelyn Foley recorded 13 kills, two aces, and eight digs in the two matches. Sophomore Amy Svatik had 19 digs and junior Rachel Allgaier was credited with 35 assists.

Field Hockey 2 – Bridgewater 1

WESTFIELD - Sophomore forward Laura Scott scored on a breakaway midway through the first overtime to lift Westfield State to a 2-1 field hockey victory over Bridgewater State on Saturday evening, Oct. 26.

The victory was the first in the Mass. State Conference for the Owls, who finished league play with a 1-4 record. All four of Westfield's conference losses were by 1-0 scores.

Westfield, 4-11 overall, concluded its season this past Saturday with a home game vs. Eastern Connecticut State. Bridgewater is 8-6 and 2-3.

Scott also assisted on Westfield's first goal, which was scored four minutes into the game by junior forward Theresa Yacovone of East Longmeadow. Bridgewater tied the score with 13:17 left in regulation on a goal by junior forward Tammy Taranto.

Westfield sophomore goalie Kendra Newell registered nine saves.

Hockey Team's Record is 4-0-1

The Westfield State College ice hockey team improved to 4-0-1 following a weekend trip to New Jersey and New York.

The Owls defeated Montclair State, 5-3, then tied New York University, 5-5.

Junior Robert Shaw scored the game-tying goal with two minutes remaining vs. NYU and junior goalie Dustin Durej made 41 saves.

Junior Mike Palazzola scored two goals in both games. Scoring one goal in each game was junior Keith Nadeau.

The Owls posted easy victories over Bryant (6-2), SUNY-Albany (10-0) and Babson (9-1) in their first three games.

Westfield hosted WNEC in a key local matchup last Saturday, Nov. 2. The Owls' next home game is Saturday, Nov. 9, when they host Stonybrook at 5:15 p.m.

2002-2003

Owls Treat Alumni To 42-0 Victory

Nov. 2002

WESTFIELD – Sophomore tailback Don Jones (Springfield) rushed for 120 on 25 carries and scored two touchdowns, and junior receiver Matt Yvon (East Longmeadow) had five receptions for 126 yards and two touchdowns to lead undefeated Westfield State to a 42-0 New England Football Conference victory over Framingham State.

The Owls improved to 7-0 overall (5-0 NEFC Bogan Division) as they won their 17th straight regular season game. In addition, with the homecoming victory Westfield clinched a berth in the Nov. 16 NEFC championship game for the second straight season.

Framingham dropped to 1-6 (1-3 NEFC Bogan Division) as it was shut out for the third straight game.

Yvon had four receptions in the first quarter, including 25-yard touchdown catch from quarterback Chris Lapointe on the game's first series. Lapointe, from Millers Falls, Mass., completed 9 of 11 passes for 195 yards and three touchdowns in under three quarters of action.

Yvon's final reception, a 21-yard touchdown with 13:38 left in the second quarter, set a new school record for TD catches in a season. Yvon now has 11 touchdown catches to break the former mark of 10 he set last season.

Westfield scored less than a minute later on a 24-yard touchdown catch by junior receiver Erik Consilvio (Arlington), who finished with three catches for 60 yards. The Owls added two more touchdowns in the second quarter to take a commanding 35-0 halftime lead on touchdown runs of two yards by freshman Jose Molina (South Easton) and six yards by Jones.

The Owls scored their final points with 11:27 left in the third quarter on a 12-yard run by Jones.

Molina also ran well in Westfield's balanced attack, gaining 90 yards on 18 carries. The Owls had 455 yards in total offense, including 247 yards rushing on 53 carries.

Westfield - ranked first in the nation in total defense, scoring defense and passing defense - limited Framingham to five net yards rushing and 61 passing. The Owls forced three turnovers and registered 10 quarterback sacks.

Senior end John Cloutier (Chicopee) was a standout once again for the Owls' blue-collar defense. Cloutier had five solo tackles, including four sacks.

Senior kicker Matt Goncalves (Ludlow) set a school record for extra points made in a game as he converted all six attempts.

Sports Notices

Banacos Road Race

The 24th annual Banacos Road Race is Sunday, Nov. 24, at noon. Registration is $6 for WSC students, $10 for nonstudents. Contact Lou Ann Simchak at 572-5417.

Registration is the day of the race in the Parenzo main lobby. There will be T-shirts and refreshments for all runners.

Athletics Reports Available

The equity in Athletics Disclosure Act (EADA) of the Higher Education Act requires institutions to report data annually regarding their athletics programs. Copies of the Westfield State's report are now available for public inspection in Ely 236, Ely 244, the library, and the president's office.

Justine Crocker: You Are Still With Us

Editor's Note: The following was written by the seniors on the Westfield State College women's soccer team and read during a pre-game memorial for Justine Crocker on Nov. 2.

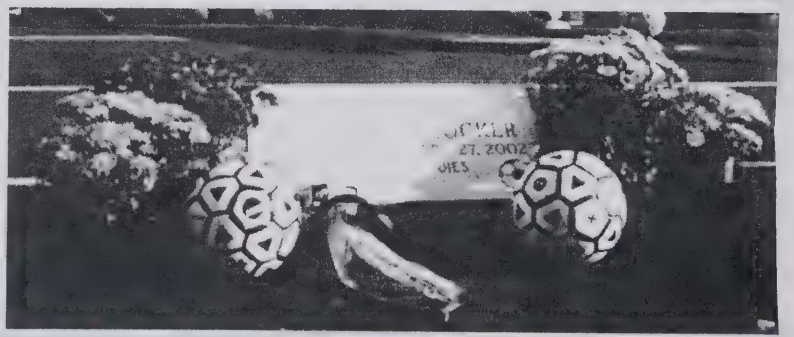
T, you are our great friend and teammate. You meant so much to all of us and you are still a part of us. You are a part of this team and always will be.

The team scores17 goals at the end of every practice in remembrance of you and your number. Sometimes in life you find special person who changes your life by being a part of it. You are that special person to us and we'll never forget you.

Today is Senior Day and you would have been on the field with Mugsy, Missy, Michelle, and Janet to play your last home game for Westfield State College. We want you to know you are still with us because you are in our hearts.

As individuals we came together as a team and all made great friends. As a team we now go through the remembered paths of our lives together and share the experiences we had with you. It was moments in our lives… we had the best of it… and we will remember it.

We will always remember you by going back to the memories and still feel the warmth the thoughts bring us. These warm feelings will never be changed, not by time or distance…



The Westfield State College women's soccer team surrounds the Justine Crocker memorial stone during the final home game Nov. 2. Crocker, a senior player who lost her life in an automobile accident, was honored by the team in a moving pre-game ceremony. The stone will be on permanent display with the completion of the new fieldhouse. *Photos By Mickey Curtis*

2002-2003

Fall Sports Roundup

Nov. 2002

Women's Volleyball

FRAMINGHAM - The Westfield State women's volleyball team was eliminated in the opening round of the conference postseason tournament.

Westfield, seeded fifth, was edged by No. 4 seed Framingham 24-30, 29-31, 28-30.

The Owls finished with a 9-16 record.

Field Hockey 3
Eastern Connecticut 2, OT

WESTFIELD – Junior Renee Gahan scored on a well-executed reverse hit from the left side 2:32 into overtime to give the Westfield State field hockey team a 3-2 victory over Eastern Connecticut State in its season finale on Nov. 2.

Gahan also assisted on Westfield's two second-half goals, which she set up with her signature "reverse hit." Scoring both goals was junior forward Theresa Yacovone.

The Owls concluded the regular season with a 5-11 overall record and a 3-7 mark in the Little East Conference. Westfield defeated three of the teams who have qualified for the seven-team postseason tournament: Eastern Connecticut, Bridgewater, and U-Mass Dartmouth.

Women's Soccer 2
Worcester State 0

WESTFIELD – Sophomore Tara McDonough made a beautiful pass on the game-winning goal, and scored a goal to lead Westfield to a key 2-0 conference victory over Worcester State Nov. 2

The victory clinched Westfield a berth in the Mass. State Conference postseason tournament as the No. 4 seed. The Owls played at top-seeded Framingham on Thursday, Nov. 7.

Senior Janet Bourget scored the game-winning goal in the 27th minute after taking a crossing passing from McDonough. McDonough scored several minutes later on a breakaway.

Westfield outshot Worcester, 11-5. The Owls are 5-8-1 overall and 3-3 in the conference.

Worcester State 2
Men's Soccer 0

WORCESTER – Worcester State posted a 2-0 victory over the Westfield State men's soccer team in the regular season finale Nov. 2.

Worcester is 11-5-2 overall and finished a perfect 7-0 in the Mass. State Conference. The Lancers hosted Westfield State again on Nov. 7 in a first-round game of the conference postseason tournament. Westfield, 6-9-1 overall, finished conference play with a 4-3 record.

Worcester outshot Westfield, 6-4, and scored the game-winning goal with less than a minute remaining in the first half. The Lancers added an insurance goal in the 75th minute.

Women's Cross Country

KEENE, N.H. – Westfield State placed fifth in the New England Alliance women's cross country championships on Nov. 2.

The Owls finished with 116 points, trailing champion Keene State (29 points), Bridgewater (66), Southern Maine (70), and U-Mass Dartmouth (108).

Freshman Heather Wenninger was Westfield's top runner, placing seventh with a time of 20:12 on the five kilometer course. Senior Catie Geldert also earned all-conference honors by finishing 20th in 20:59.

Other top runners for Westfield were: Sheila Mulherin (30th, 21:36), Aimee Worcester (40h, 22:14), Laura Hurley (48th, 22:32), and Alyssa Reid (49th, 22:32).

Keene State standout Mary Proulx won the race with a sizzling time of 17:41. Teammate Stephanie Gibson placed second in 19:19.

Men's Cross Country

KEENE, N.H. – Westfield State finished sixth in the New England Alliance men's cross country championships on Nov. 2.

The Owls scored 149 points in the 10-team meet. Keene State had a perfect score of 15 as it took the first six individual places, including Mark Miller, who won the five-mile race in 25:01.

Sophomore Geoff Churchill was Westfield's top runner, placing 14th in 27:15. He was followed by Tom Bousquet (22nd, 27:43), Matt Frederick (38th, 28:19), Andy Barron (49th, 28:58), William Davidian (52nd, 29:06), and Bob McLaughlin (53rd, 29:13).

Frosh Swimmer Sets Records

WESTFIELD – The Westfield State women's swimming and diving team opened its season with a 159-140 home victory over Simmons College on Saturday, Nov. 2.

Westfield freshman Vanessa Morton of Wellfleet, Mass., set school records in winning the 50 freestyle (26.02) and 100 freestyle (56.84). She also won the 50 butterfly in 29.57.

Freshman Lindsey Bartosz of Chicopee Comp High School was a double winner, finishing first in the 100 backstroke (1:07.88) and the 50 backstroke (31.45).

Also placing first were: sophomore Heather Nelson (200 freestyle, 2:16.28), sophomore Nicole Spataro (100 butterfly, 1:09.49), and senior Kelley Reardon (one-meter diving, 140.75 points).

Ice Hockey Handles WNEC, 4-2

WESTFIELD – The Westfield State ice hockey team ran its record to 5-0-1 with a 4-2 victory over Western New England College on Nov. 2.

The Owls of first-year coach Sean Provost scored three second-period goals to take a 3-1 lead. Captain Archie Kalezic scored two second-period goals, including a shorthanded goal.

Also scoring were Alan Donnelly and James Carapella. Recording two assists was Matt Stone.

Ardie Kalezic was the star of the game, making 43 saves, including many from point blank range.

Ice Hockey Home Game
Friday, Nov. 15, 8:15 p.m.

2002-2003

Women's Soccer Falls In 2 OTs

FRAMINGHAM – Jill Gendron scored with 11 seconds remaining in the second overtime to give Framingham State a 3-2 victory over Westfield State in the semi-finals of Mass. State Conference women's soccer postseason tournament on Nov. 7.

Framingham, the No. 1 seed, improved to 12-5, while Westfield, seeded fourth, finishes at 5-9-1.

The Owls kept battling back in nearly pulling off the upset. Trailing 1-0 at halftime, Westfield tied the score in the 55th minute on a goal by freshman Carly Czubryt [illegible] was assisted by Jess Silva.

Framingham quickly regained the lead less than a minute later on a goal by Lisa Diamond. Westfield sent the game into overtime when senior standout Janet Bourget scored on a penalty kick in the 80th minute.

The teams appeared to be headed for a shootout, but Gendron's game-winning goal sailed just over the outstretched hands of goalie Natalia Araszkiewicz.

Owls Survive Weather, Long Trip To Stay Unbeaten

Nov. 2002

CASTINE, Me. – Quarterback Chris Lapointe threw for 199 yards and two touchdown to lead undefeated Westfield State to a 34-8 victory over Maine Maritime in a turnover-plagued New England Football Conference game on a bitterly cold day in Maine.

The victory improved the Owls' record to 8-0 and extended their regular season unbeaten streak to 18 straight games. Westfield concludes it regular season with a nondivisional game at Curry College on Nov. 9, before playing in the NEFC championship game on Nov. 16.

Maine Maritime remained winless at 0-8.

There were a staggering 16 turnovers in the game. Westfield, which only had 11 turnovers in its first seven games, lost five fumbles and threw two interceptions. Maine Maritime, however, lost seven fumbles and threw two interceptions.

The Owls scored first on a one-yard run by freshman fullback Mark Pulchaski of South Deerfield. Maine made the score 6-2, however, when Rich McCaslin intercepted Westfield's conversion pass attempt and returned it for two points.

Westfield led 13-2 with 5:52 left in the first quarter as Lapointe and junior receiver Matt Yvon (East Longmeadow) hooked for a 41-yard touchdown.

The Owls increased their lead to 20-2 early in the second period on a four-yard run by Don Jones, who was held to just 28 net yards rushing on 24 carries. Maine scored its only touchdown on a one-yard run by Don Cummington late in the first half.

The Owls tacked on two third-period touchdowns to complete the scoring: a one-yard run by Jones and a 23-yard pass from Lapointe to Erik Consilvio.

Lapointe completed 11 of 22 passes, while Yvon finished with seven receptions for 145 yards. Freshman Jose Molina (South Easton) was Westfield's leading rusher with only 35 net yards on 14 carries.

Senior All America linebacker Josue Zamora (Hartford, Conn.) had a standout day for Westfield with two interceptions returns of 24 and 41 yards. He also registered two quarterback sacks.

Westfield limited Maine Maritime to 78 net rushing yards and 20 yards passing. The Owls entered the game leading the nation in total defense, run defense, pass defense and scoring defense.

Fall Sports Roundup

Nov. 2002

Women's Swimming

WESTFIELD – The Westfield State College women's swimming and diving team placed second in the six-team Regis Invitational on Nov. 16.

The Owls totaled 650 points to trail Mt. Holyoke (798).

Freshman standout Vanessa Morton won two events, touching the wall first in the 100 freestyle (57.34) and 100 backstroke (1:05.93).

Morton earned 46 points in the invitational, trailing freshman teammate Lindsey Bartosz, who contributed 47 points to Westfield's final score. Bartosz finished second in the 50 backstroke, fourth in the 50 butterfly, and sixth in the 100 butterfly.

Also placing second were Kelley Reardson in the one-meter diving and the 200 freestyle relay team of Jenny Gilbert, Laura McCormick, Heather Nelson and Morton.

TEAM STANDINGS: Mt. Holyoke 798; Westfield State 650; Simmons 536; Regis 519; Wheelock 218; Elms 92.

FIRST PLACE: Vanessa Morton, 100 freestyle, 57.34; Vanessa Morton, 100 backstroke, 1:05.93.

SECOND: Kelley Reardon, one-meter diving, 143.40; Lindsey Bartosz, 50 backstroke, 31.64; 200 freestyle relay (Gilbert, McCormick, Nelson, Morton), 1:53.11.

THIRD: Clare Cournoyer, one-meter diving, 119.7; 200 medley relay (Gilbert, MacKenzie, Spataro, Morton), 2:06.41; Jenny Gilbert, 50 freestyle, 28.10.

FOURTH: Laura McCormick, 500 freestyle, 6:00.55; Jenny Gilbert, 50 backstroke, 32.33; Kim MacKenzie, 50 breaststroke, 37.36; Lindsey Bartosz, 50 butterfly, 30.67; 200 freestyle relay (Casali, McMahon, Lindsay Acheson, Loiko) 1:56.87.

FIFTH: Heather Nelson, 100 freestyle, 1:02.43; Nicole Spataro, 100 butterfly, 1:13.23; Jacyln Casali, 50 freestyle, 29.42; Heather Nelson, 200 freestyle, 2:17.91.

SIXTH: Shannon McMahon, 200 IM, 2:35.51; Kristen Loiko, 50 backstroke, 33.38; Laura McCormick, 50 breaststroke, 39.26; Lindsey Bartosz, 100 butterfly, 1:14.04; Kristen Loiko, 100 backstroke, 1:10.27; Kim MacKenzie, 100 IM, 1:12.93.

Men's Cross Country

WESTFIELD – Westfield State finished 20th out of 35 teams in the NCAA Division III New England Regional men's cross country championships held Saturday, Nov. 16, at Stanley Park.

Sophomore Geoff Churchill (86th, 26:53) was Westfield's top finisher, followed by Tom Bousquet (99th, 27:05), Andrew Barron (113th, 27:23), Matt Frederick (123rd, 27:40), and William Davidian (148th, 28:07).

A total of 268 runners competed, with Trinity's Ryan Bak taking first place with a time of 24:21 on the 10,000 meter course.

Keene State won the title with 64 points, followed by Bowdoin (111) and Williams (132).

Women's Cross Country

WESTFIELD – Westfield State finished 25th out of 38 teams in the NCAA Division III New England Regional women's cross country championships held Saturday, Nov. 16, at Stanley Park.

Freshman Heather Wenninger (104th, 24:02) was Westfield's top finisher, followed by freshman Sheila Mulherin (135th, 24:53), Catie Geldert (157th, 25:28), Aimee Worcester (171st, 25:47), and Alyssa Reid (180th, 26:14).

A total of 273 runners competed, with Williams freshman Caroline Cretti taking first place with a time of 20:35 on the 6,000 meter course.

Williams placed five runners in the top 15 to win the team championship with 33 points. Middlebury finished second with 61 points and Bowdoin was third with 162 points.

Hockey Runs Record to 9-1-1

WESTFIELD – The Westfield State College ice hockey team posted a 2-1 record last week to improve to 9-1-1 on the season.

The Owls began the week with a 6-2 victory over the Harvard JV squad in Cambridge on Nov. 13.

James Carapella led the way with a goal and two assists. Keith Nadeau, Mike Pallazolla, Seth Oppenheim, Ryan Lawless and Archie Kalezic also scored.

Goalie Mike Shikoluk earned the victory in his first collegiate start.

Westfield hosted Siena on Nov. 15 and lost for the first time this season, 4-1, in a well-played game.

The score was tied 0-0 after two periods as Westfield goalie Ardy Kazelic made some great saves, along with Siena goalie George Spinella.

Westfield took a 1-0 lead 29 seconds into the third period on a goal by Archie Kazelic. Siena's Ben Casey tied the score with his first of two goals with 12:57 remaining. Ewen Dewit scored just six seconds later for the game winner.

Westfield entertained SUNY-Albany on Sunday, Nov. 17, and rolled to a 7-1 victory. The Owls outshot the visitors, 50-30, and goalie Dustin Durej beat Albany for the second time this season.

Archie Kalezic and B.J. Ahern both tallied two goals. Matt Stone, Nick Pizzoferrato, and Seth Oppenheim each had a goal and an assist.

Westfield concludes its fall semester schedule with a home game vs. Montclair State on Saturday, Nov. 30.

Westfield is currently in first place in the Super East Collegiate Hockey League with 11 points, a 5-1-1 record. Siena and Stonybrook are tied for second with 10 points.

Hockey Team Seeks Manager

The Westfield State College ice hockey team is seeking a student manager. Contact 572-5433 or stop by Ely 245 for more information.

Varsity Fall Sports Banquet is Dec. 9, 5:30. Pick up tickets in Ely 244 by Dec, 5.

2002 - 2003

2002-2003

Owls Blanked By Dartmouth In NEFC Championship

WORCESTER – Junior Shawn Theriault rushed for 100 yards on 29 carries and U-Mass Dartmouth's stingy defense outdueled Westfield State as the Corsairs claimed the New England Football Conference championship with a 16-0 victory on Nov. 16.

U-Mass Dartmouth improved to 11-0 and earned an automatic berth into the NCAA Division III national tournament. Westfield State, which won the NEFC championship last season, is 8-2.

"U-Mass Dartmouth is a very good team, the best team we played in the last two years." said Westfield head coach Steve Marino, who Owls have posted an 18-3 record during that span, including a pair of one-point losses.

The game featured two of the top defenses in the NCAA Division III, with Westfield leading the nation in scoring defense (7.1), followed by U-Mass Darmouth (7.8). The Corsairs won the defensive battle as they limited Westfield to nine net yards rushing and 121 passing. Westfield, ranked first nationally in total defense, also played well, allowing only 207 yards, but the Corsairs ran the ball 51 times for 132 yards.

"We have not run the ball well in a while," Marino said. "But U-Mass Dartmouth was also quick and physical. They'll represent our league in the NCAAs very well."

The Corsairs also clinched the field possession game as they blocked a punt to set up the first touchdown, then returned a punt 44 yards to set up a field goal. Senior Paul O'Donnell blocked it and the ball went out of bounds at the Westfield 40. It took U-Mass Dartmouth 12 plays to score, with junior quarterback John Falcone scoring from one yard out. Falcone fumbled on the third down play, but recovered it and just got across the goal line.

U-Mass Dartmouth took a 10-0 lead on a 32-yard field goal by senior standout kicker/punter Brian West with 2:54 remaining in the first half.

With field position critical, West also boomed punts of 52 and 59 yards in the fourth quarter to give the Corsairs some breathing room.

"Our defense gave us great field position all along," said Westfield senior offensive tackle Doug Kaczmarczyk. "Our offense has put points on the board all season, but we couldn't today."

With both teams playing tough defense in the second half, the Corsairs scored a touchdown with 1:16 left in the game when junior defensive end Philip Rashovetsky recovered a fumble in the endzone by quarterback Chris Lapointe.

Lapointe completed 16 of 34 passes for 121 yards; he threw two interceptions deep in Dartmouth territory. Junior receiver Matt Yvon caught nine passes for 60 yards.

"They took away our outs and quick stuff," said Lapointe, who was sacked six times. "They had very good defensive linemen, but some of the sacks were also coverage sacks."

Westfield Gets ECAC Grid Bid

Nov. 2002

HOOP SCOOP: Head coaches Naomi Graves (Springfield), Steve Marcil (Westfield), Wendy Davis (WNEC), and Bill McBride (Amherst) met at the Basketball Hall of Fame to discuss the inaugural Pioneer Valley Classic for women. This classic will be held Dec. 6-7 at Springfield College. Westfield State plays Springfield and Amherst at 6:00 p.m. both days. The second annual Pioneer Valley Classic for men's basketball also will be held Dec. 6-7 at Amherst College. The Westfield men play WNEC at 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 6 and Amherst on Dec. 7 at 4:00 p.m., Admission is free for students from all four colleges. The Westfield State men's home opener is Dec. 4 vs. Vassar, while the Westfield State women's home opener is Dec. 10 vs. Western Connecticut.
File Photo By Mickey Curtis

The Westfield State College football team faced a tough task this past Saturday, Nov. 23, when it playd at SUNY Cortland in the ECAC Northwest Region championship game.

Both teams entered the game with 8-2 records. SUNY Cortland, formerly called Cortland State, lost to perennial power Rowan, 42-21, and in overtime to the College of New Jersey, 41-38. Cortland is a member of the powerful New Jersey Athletic Conference, joining the league in football in 2000.

Cortland has non-conference victories over Brockport State, 21-12, in its season opener, and Ithaca, 16-12, Nov. 16. Brockport hosted Springfield in an NCAA Tournament game this past week, while Ithaca handed Springfield its only loss this season..

This is the second straight year Westfield State will participate in a postseason tournament, and their first trip to the ECAC championships. Last season the Owls fell to Western Connecticut, 8-7, in the NCAA Tournament.

"This is going to be a tough game for us," said Westfield State coach Steve Marino. "Cortland is an outstanding team and is big, plus we have some players banged up. But we're going to go there and play our best. We're also looking forward to playing at Cortland's new stadium, which I understand is an outstanding facility."

Cortland has a depth-laden rushing and passing attack. Leading ground gainer Steve Davis has 577 yards rushing. Quarterback J.J. Tutwiler has completed 146 of 241 passes for 1,916 yards and 13 touchdowns.

The Red Dragon are averaging 395.2 yards in total offense and 29.5 points per game. Their defense is allowing 15.9 points per game and has racked up 43 sacks.

The Westfield State defense is still ranked first in the NCAA Division III, allowing 156.9 yards per game. The Owls are ranked first in passing defense, second in scoring defense and third in run defense.

2002-2003

2002-2003

Owls Outswim WNEC

SPRINGFIELD – The Westfield State College women's swimming and diving team defeated Western New England College, 143-119, last Wednsday.

"It was a good meet for us," said veteran coach Dave Laing, whose team is 2-1. "WNEC has some good swimmers and I told our swimmers not to worry about times but just placing."

Freshman standout Vanessa Morton was a triple winner again for Westfield, finishing first in the 50 freestyle, 100 freestyle, and 200 freestyle. Also placing first were senior Colleen Boisvert (100 butterfly), freshman Shannon McMahon (200 individual medley) and freshman Lindsey Bartosz (50 buttefly).

Placing second were Laura McCormick (1000 freestyle and 500 freestyle), Kristin Loiko (50 backstroke), McMahon (50 breaststroke), and Bartosz (100 backstroke).

Freshman swimmer Vanessa Morton is all smiles after setting another school record. The Wellfleet resident set and re-set records in the 50 and 100 freestyles in the first two meets of the season. ***Mickey Curtis Photo***

Hockey Stays In First Place

Dec. 2002

WESTFIELD – The Westfield State men's ice hockey team rolled to an 8-1 rout of Montclair State, N.J., on Nov. 30.

The Owls are 11-1-1 overall and in first place in the Super East Collegiate Hockey League with a 7-1-1 record. They concluded their fall semester schedule with a home game vs. Wagner last Saturday. Westfield's next game is Jan. 24 when it hosts Central Connecticut State.

Westfield led Montclair, 2-0, after the first period on goals by Mike Palazola and Mark Carrasquillo. It was the first of three goals for Palazolla, who finished with a hat trick and two assists. Carrasquillo scored on a hard slapshot from the point just as Montclair killed off a power play.

The Owls scored three second-period goals, the first on a beautiful wristshot from the right boards by Ken Hetzel. Palazola and Archie Kalezic also scored in the period, with B.J. Ahern assisting on both goals.

"Archie's goal was one for the highlight films as he scored on a one timer from Ahern from the top of the left face-off circle," said head coach Sean Provost.

"Arch, B.J., and Palazola have been the top line in the league in my opinion," added the first year coach. "Archie has been a good leader from the start and his work ethic has rubbed off on the whole team."

Westfield's top line finished with 12 points vs. Montclair State.

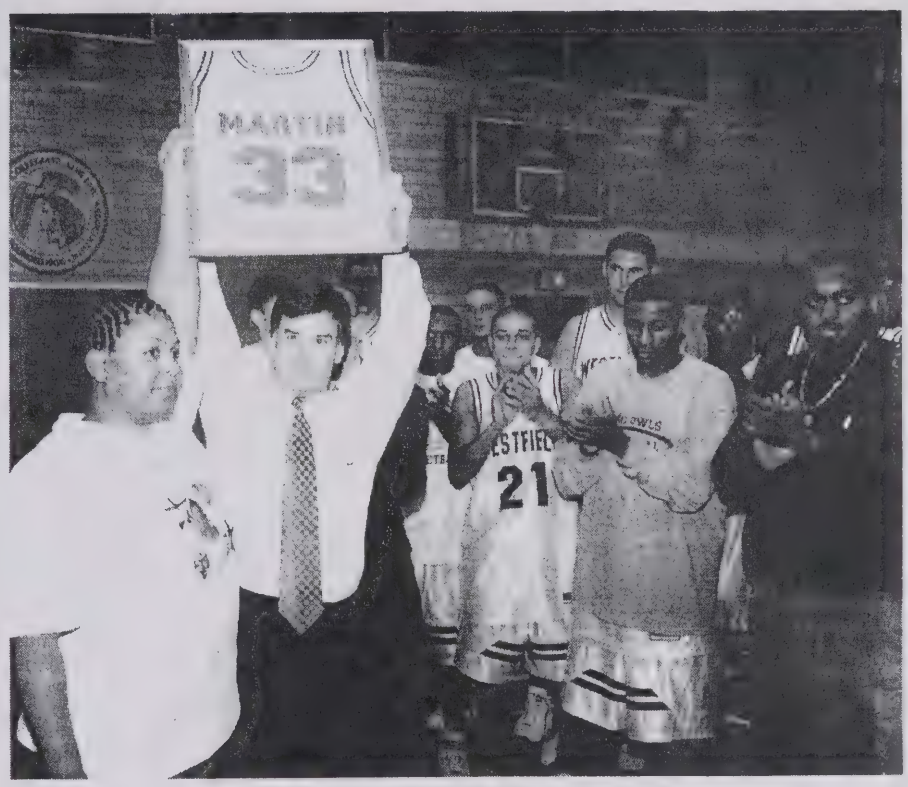
Palozola, James Carapella and Mark McGuire finished off the scoring in the rugged third period, in which Montclair was whistled for 29 minutes of penalties.

"I was very pleased with the effort the team put forth, especially coming off Thanksgiving break," said Provost. "I was most proud of the way the team stuck together when Montclair started to get chippy."

Goalie Dustin Durej finished with 19 saves and played well, stopping some good shots early in the game.

Hockey Team Seeks Manager

The WestfieldState College ice hockey team is seeking a student manager. Contact 572-5433 or stop by Ely 245 for more information.



Head Coach Rich Sutter displays the uniform that he and the Westfield State men's basketball team presented to Dana Martin - the mother of Ricky Martin Cofield - during an emotional halftime ceremony last Wednesday in the Owls' home opener. Ricky was a freshman member of this year's basketball team who lost his life Oct. 16 while playing the sport he loved. Forty-two of Ricky's family and friends came via bus from the Boston area for the special tribute. *Photo By David Harris-Fried*

Men's Hoops Outscores Vassar, 93-88

Dec. 2002

WESTFIELD – Senior guard Shawn Jones (Springfield) scored 33 points and junior guard Leonard Miller (Norwich, CT) scored 21 points to lead the Westfield State College men's basketball team to a wild 93-88 victory over Vassar in its home opener Dec. 4.

The Owls (2-2) withstood a dazzling 3-point shooting display by Vassar (3-2). Vassar trailed 48-36 at halftime and by as many as 15 points in the second half before rallying behind its three-point barrage. The visitors were 18-for-37 from three-point land in the game, including a 12-for-26 second-half explosion. Westfield, meanwhile, made 5 of 6 three-pointers in the first half, but was 0-for-6 in the second half.

"Usually when a visiting team shoots well in the first half on an opponent's court they don't shoot as well in the second half," said coach Rich Sutter. "But that wasn't the case with Vassar. They were drilling them from NBA range."

The Owls were led by Jones' 21 second-half points and some clutch free throw shooting, especially in the closing minutes when Vassar cut the lead to four points, 87-83.

Westfield canned 26 of 33 free throws, including a 17-for-22 effort in the second half.

Westfield State senior guard Ethan Slavin (Mohegan Lake, N.Y.) finished with 13 points and made all eight of his free throw attempts in the second half. Senior forward Bryant James finished with 12 points, and game highs of eight rebounds, five assists and four steals.

Senior guard Brian Snodgrass (Holmdel, N.J.) came off the bench to lead Vassar with 24 points. Snodgrass was 8-for-14 from three-point range, including six treys in the second half. Sophomore guard Jud Winton scored 23 points, nearly two points higher than his season average.

Women's Basketball

WILLIMANTIC, Conn. - Junior All-America forward Allison Coleman had her fourth double-double of the season and became the fastest player in school history to score 1,000 points as the Eastern Connecticut State University women's basketball team defeated Westfield State College, 86-56, in a non-conference game Dec. 3.

Ranked 23rd nationally in the first d3hoops.com national poll, the Warriors (4-1) have won 30 straight regular-season home games.

The 5-foot-9 Coleman, a two-time WBCA All-American, had game-highs of 16 points and 15 rebounds in 25 minutes. She entered the game needing one point to become the 10th player in ECSU history to score 1,000.

AmandaChapin led Westfield State with 10 points.

Eastern held an 18-point halftime advantage as a result of a 14-1 closing run over the final five minutes. Coleman, who also had five assists, five steals and a blocked shot, had six of her nine first-half points during the run.

2002-2003

Owls Defeated In ECAC Game

CORTLAND, N.Y. – Junior quarterback and game MVP J.J. Tutwiler completed 17-of-33 passes for 189 yards and two touchdowns and also ran for a score as Cortland defeated Westfield State 30-7 in the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Division III Northwest Championship game.

The Red Dragons finish the season with a 9-2 record for their highest win total since 1990. Westfield State ends the year 8-3 after winning its first eight games.

The Owls were minus eight starters for the season finale, including six on defense. Three (strong safety Al Gates, linebacker Mike Hurteau, punter Bob Arnett), were taking the state teachers test, and tackles Jaret Foley and Stevie Faniel and cornerback Aaron Ragland were sidelined with injuries. Offensively, first team all-conference selections Rob Byrne (center) and Dave Duquette (guard) were on the injured list.

"I thought we played pretty well considering the injuries," said coach Steve Marino. "We were able to move the ball, but defensively we gave up some big plays near the end of the first half. Cortland is a very good team. They beat Brockport, and Brockport has already won two games in the NCAA Tournament by beating Springfield and Rowan."

Cortland scored on its second possession when sophomore tailback Steve Davis took a pitch and ran left 30 yards for a touchdown. On their next possession, the Red Dragons needed only four plays to drive 67 yards for a touchdown. Colucci made a nice one-handed catch for a 37-yard gain during the drive and two plays later Tutwiler ran 18 yards to paydirt on an option play to give Cortland a 14-0 lead.

The visiting Owls got on the board in the second quarter after recovering a Tutwiler fumble on the Cortland 15-yard line. Junior quarterback Chris Lapointe (Millers Falls, MA/Turners Falls) completed a 2-yard pass to senior fullback Tom Walsh (Weymouth, MA/Boston College High) on the third play of the drive, with Walsh making a nice effort to extend the ball just over the goal line. The play drew Westfield within 14-7 with six minutes, 32 seconds left in the half.

One possession earlier, Westfield turned the ball over on downs at the Cortland 8-yard line when a quarterback sneak by Lapointe on 4th-and-1 was stopped for no gain by Red Dragon senior defensive tackle John Longo.

Cortland put up nine points in the final two minutes of the half to take a 23-7 lead. A six-play, 44-yard drive was capped by a 36-yard shovel pass from Tutwiler to junior tailback Mike Stepnick for a touchdown with 1:35 left.

The PAT kick, however, was blocked by senior Josue Zamora (Hartford, CT/Weaver). Cortland forced a punt after three plays on the next Owls' possession and received the ball on the Westfield 47-yard line with 39 seconds left. On the seventh play of the drive, Stepnick threw a halfback option pass to Tutwiler for a 12-yard gain, setting up a 40-yard field goal by senior George Oostmeyer into the wind that just cleared the crossbar on the final play of the half.

The cold and windy weather appeared to take its toll in the second half as numerous passes were dropped by both teams. The only score of the half came with 3:19 left in the third quarter when Tutwiler hit Romano for a 6-yard scoring pass to complete a six-play, 49-yard drive. Romano's catch was his school record 16th career touchdown reception.

Prior to Romano's touchdown, Cortland let a great scoring chance slip away when Zamora forced a fumble at the Westfield 1-yard line that the Owls recovered in the end zone.

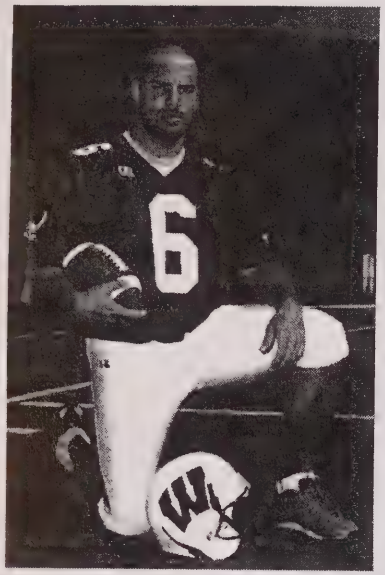
Westfield's best second-half scoring chance came early in the fourth quarter when the Owls moved the ball from their own 30-yard line to the Cortland 16-yard line. A 4th-and-6 pass from the 18, however, fell incomplete.

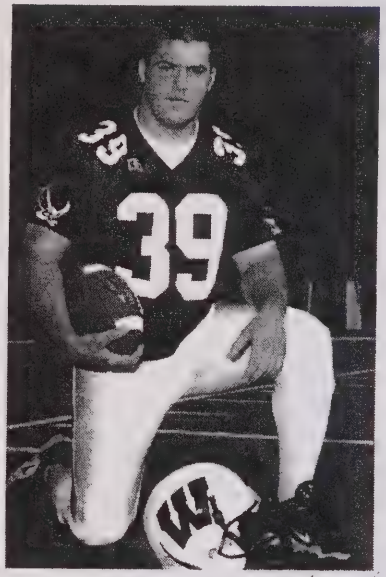
Westfield entered the game ranked first nationally in Division III in total defense (156.9 yards/game) and passing defense (66.41 efficiency rating against), second in scoring defense (7.9 points/game) and third in run defense (53.9 yards/game). Cortland finished the game with 363 yards of total offense – 162 on the ground and 201 through the air.

Westfield was led offensively by junior Matt Yvon's (East Longmeadow, MA/Cathedral) seven receptions for 90 yards. Lapointe finished 16-of-41 passing for 157 yards and one touchdown. The Owls rushing game again stalled as they were held to 47 net yards on 36 carries, including four sacks.

Westfield was led defensively by Zamora's 12 tackles, a forced fumble, and a blocked PAT, and sophomore linebacker Matt Wooliver's (Lanesboro, MA/Mt. Greylock) nine tackles.

Cortland was making its ninth post-season appearance. The Red Dragons are now 4-1 in ECAC title games (their last ECAC game was in 1995) in addition to making NCAA showings in 1988, 1989, 1990 and 1997. Westfield State was making its first ECAC appearance after playing in the NCAA tournament last year.





Senior linebacker Josue Zamora, left, and senior defensive end John Cloutier were also recognized regionally as well as earning New England Football Confernce All-Conference selections. Both Zamora and Cloutier were selected to the New England sportswriters Division 2/3 all-star unit, and were first-team picks on the ECAC Northeast Region all-star squad. Westfield State second team selections on the ECAC team were junior center Rob Byrne and senior guard Dave Duquette.

Twelve Owls Selected Football All-Conference

Twelve members of the Westfield State College football team were named to the New England Football Conference (NEFC) All-Conference teams for the 2002 season.

An impressive nine Owls were selected to the first team in the 13-team NEFC, led by senior linebacker **Josue Zamora**, who also was a unanimous selection as the Defensive Player of the Year for the second straight season.

Other members of Westfield's nationally-ranked defense who earned first-team honors were: senior defensive backs **Jason Olivari, Ryan Clifford and Al Gates**, and standout defensive end **John Cloutier**.

Cloutier was nationally ranked with 12 quarterback sacks and 23 tackles for losses. Zamora led the team with 63 tackles, including five sacks, 17 tackles for losses, and two fumble recoveries.

Olivari had team-highs of five interceptions and 10 pass breakups. Clifford repeated as a first-team all conference selection, while Gates was a second-team pick in 2001.

Named the the NEFC first-team offense were junior quarterback **Chris Lapointe**, junior wide receiver **Matt Yvon**, junior center **Rob Byrne**, and senior guard **Dave Duquette.**

Lapointe had a breakout season as he threw for a school record 25 touchdowns. The 6-3, 235 pounder completed 146 of 304 passes for 1,784 yards. Yvon - a first-team pick for the second straight year - continued his assault on the school record books. Yvon had 73 catches for 993 yards and 12 touchdowns; the catches and touchdowns are both new school standards.

Duquette was a repeat first-team pick, while Byrne was a second-team selection in 2002.

Westfield State second-team selections were junior defensive lineman **Stevie Faniel**, junior linebacker **Mike Hurteau**, and junior offensive tackle **Pete Feeley**.

Faniel had four fumble recoveries and three blocked punts. Hurteau was the team's second leading tackler with 58 stops.

"We are proud to have 12 players selected all conference," said coach Steve Marino, who has guided the Owls to an 18-4 record the past two seasons. "Six of the all-conference players are seniors, and they were outstanding players for us. But six of them are juniors, so we have a solid group to work with next season."

Football

Special Award Winners

Outstanding Contributor – Al Gates
12th Player Award – Tom Walsh
Lineman of the Year – John Cloutier
Defensive Player of Year - J. Zamora
Offensive Player of Year – Matt Yvon

Four-Year Awards

Ryan Clifford
Jaret Foley
Dan Fitzgerald
Bob Arnett
Jason Olivari
Al Gates
Tom Walsh
Dave Duquette
Doug Kaczmarczyk
Kevin Vaughn

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Fall Sports Awards

Dec. 2002

Women's Volleyball
Mass. State All Conference
First Team – Tasha Goulet
Second Team – Katelyn Foley
Second Team – Amy Svatik
Special Achievement Award Winners
Outstanding Contributor – Tasha Goulet
Outstanding Contributor – Katelyn Foley
Freshman of the Year – Danielle Mainini
Four-Year Award
Tasha Goulet
Katelyn Foley

Men's Soccer
Mass. State All Conference
First Team - Chris Whalley
Second Team – Joe Calabrese
Second Team – Billy Campbell
Special Achievement Award Winners
Most Valuable Defender – Mike Cotrone
Leadership Award – Joe Calabrese
Most Valuable Player – Chris Whalley
Four-Year Awards
Garrett O'Connell
Chris Whalley
David Gadouas

Westfield State senior standout Chris Whalley was an All New England men's soccer selection for the second straight year. He is a four-time all-conference selection and two-time team MVP. He ranks 17th on Westfield's all-time scoring list and is fourth in career assists.

Women's Soccer
Mass. State All Conference
First Team - Janet Bourget
First Team – Ali Jordan
Second Team – Jess Silva
Special Achievement Award Winners
Outstanding Contributor Award – Meg Borsari
Outstanding Contributor Award – Janet Bourget
Leadership Award – Melissa Albano
Defensive Player of the Year – Natalia Araszkiewicz
Four-Year Awards
Janet Bourget
Meg Borsari
Melissa Albano
Michelle Montvitt

Women's Cross Country
Mass. State All Conference
Heather Wenninger
Sheila Mulherin
Conference Rookie of the Year
Heather Wenninger
Special Achievement Award Winners
Outstanding Contributor – Heather Wenninger
Most Improved – Sarah Clark
Four-Year Awards
Laura Hurley
Alyssa Reid

Heather Wenninger was named Conference Rookie of the Year.

Men's Cross Country
All Conference
Geoff Churchill
Tom Bousquet
Andy Barron
Special Achievement Award Winners
Outstanding Contributor – Geoff Churchill
Most Improved – Andy Barron
James Earley Award – Tom Bousquet
Four-Year Awards
Tom Bousquet
Nick Burke
Jim Creed

Field Hockey
Mass. State All Conference
First Team – Laura Scott
Second Team – Julie Flynn
Special Achievement Award Winners
Offensive Player of the Year – Laura Scott
Defensive Player of the Year – Julie Flynn
Four-Year Awards
Jill Annunciata
Meg Perreault
Julie Flynn

Janet Bourget was a four-time all-conference selection.

2002 - 2003

Winter Sports Roundup

Dec. 2002

Men's Basketball
Western Conn. 94 - Westfield 84

WESTFIELD – Junior forward Marvin Evans was one of five players in double figures with 21 points to lead Western Connecticut State to a 94-84 victory over Westfield.

Trailing 24-18 early, Western Connecticut went on a 18-1 run to take a 36-25 lead with 4:01 left in the first half. The Colonials led 42-36 at halftime, and by as many as 12 points in the second half before the Owls mounted a comeback.

Westfield drew to within three, 87-84, and had a chance to tie the score, but Shawn Jones missed a 3-point attempt from the right baseline.

Jones led all scorers with 28 points. Westfield senior forward Bryant James totaled 18 points, 10 rebounds, six assists and six steals. Westfield's only other player in double figures was reserve guard Mitch Mitchell with 10 points.

The Owls shot a sizzling 68 percent in the second half but finished with 24 turnovers, including several key miscues in the closing minutes. Western had 15 turnovers.

Women's Basketball
Westfield 75 - Western Conn. 44

WESTFIELD – Senior center Melissa Cote had 13 points, 10 rebounds, four assists and two steals to lead the Westfield State to a convincing 75-44 victory over Western Connecticut.

The Owls improved to 5-2 heading into last Thursday's home game vs. Newbury College.

With the scored tied at 16, the Owls went on a 19-2 run to take a 35-18 halftime lead. They led by as many as 28 points before coach Steve Marcil cleared the bench in the final 10 minutes.

Cote was one of four players in double figures for Westfield. Freshman forward Lekeisha Walker (Springfield) finished with 13 points, six rebounds, and five steals. Senior guard Brenda Knott tallied 10 points in limited action, and sophomore forward Amanda Chapin of Westfield (Suffield Academy) came off the bench to contribute 10 points and five rebounds.

The Owls shot a season-high 58 percent from the field and forced 31 Western Connecticut turnovers.

Women's Basketball
Westfield 60 - Springfield 56

SPRINGFIELD – Senior center Melissa Cote posted game highs of 15 points and 12 rebounds and freshman reserve guard Meghan McCarthy (Belchertown) scored 11 points, including six in the final two minutes, to lead Westfield State to a 56-50 victory over Springfield in opening round action of the inaugural Pioneer Valley Women's Basketball Classic Dec. 6.

The Owls improved to 4-1 overall as they overcame a sluggish first-half in which they trailed 25-22. Also contributing to Springfield's third loss in its last 32 home games were seniors Alissa Tedesco (eight points, 11 rebounds) and Brenda Knott (14 points, including three 3-point baskets).

Tedesco snapped a 48-48 tie on a layin with 2:24 remaining. McCarthy followed with a driving layup for a 52-48 lead with 1:48 remaining. She then made four free throws down the stretch

Men's Basketball
WNEC 89 - Westfield 81

AMHERST – Senior forward Kris Hebert of Chicopee led WNEC's balanced attack with 21 points in the Golden Bears to an 89-81 victory over Westfield State in the opening round of the second annual Pioneer Valley Men's Basketball Classic Dec. 6

WNEC, which led 43-40 at halftime, shot 55 percent from the field for the game.

Senior forward Bryant James led the Owls with 20 points and 10 rebounds.

Men's Basketball
Amherst 100 - Westfield 63

AMHERST – Amherst placed 13 players in the scoring column, including senior tri-captain Pat Fitzsimons who tallied a career-high 27 points and game-highs of 13 rebounds and five blocks, en route to a 100-63 victory over Westfield in the final round of the Pioneer Valley Classic Dec. 7.

Ranked 12th in the latest D3hoops.com national poll, Amherst ran its record to 6-0.

Women's Basketball
Amherst 61 - Westfield 56

SPRINGFIELD – Amherst College held on for a 61-56 victory over Westfield State in the final round of the inaugural Pioneer Valley Women's Basketball Classic.

Amherst, undefeated with a 5-0 record, took a 34-23 halftime lead but could never pull away from the pesky Owls. Westfield closed to within five points on two occasions in the second half before Amherst took what seemed to be a comfortable 15-point lead, 57-42.

With the score 59-46 at the 3:53 mark, the Owls scored 10 consecutive points to close to within three points, 59-56, with 1:02 remaining. Westfield had an opportunity to tie the game with 13 seconds remaining, but freshman guard's Meghan McCarthy's 3-point attempt from the right baseline hit the side of the rim.

Senior Melissa Cote led Westfield in scoring for the second straight game with 14 points.

Women's Swimming & Diving
Mt. Holyoke 181 - Westfield 118

WESTFIELD – The undefeated Mount Holyoke women's swimming and diving team recorded a 181-118 victory over Westfield State Dec. 7.

Three freshmen earned first places for Westfield State. Vanessa Morton of Wellfleet won the 100 (56.38) and 200 (2:04.60) freestyles and finished second in the 50 freestyle (26.38).

Shannon McMahon of Pittsfield won the 50 butterfly (30.19) and finished second in both the 100 breaststroke (1:20.26) and the 200 individual medley (2:33.38). Lindsey Bartosz won the 200 backstroke (2:24.31).

Senior Kelley Reardon finished second in both diving events.

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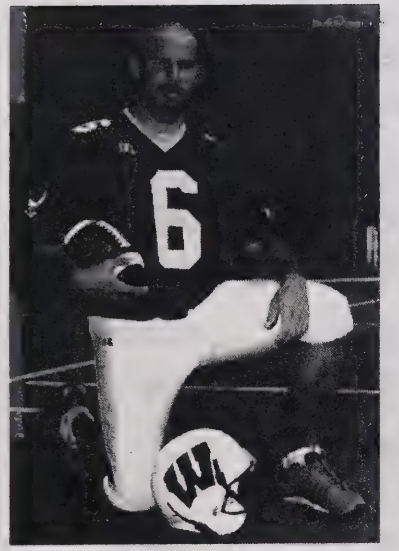


Senior linebacker Josue Zamora was named an All American for the second straight season. Zamora was both a Hewlett Packard and a d3football.com third team All American as he helped to lead the Owls to an 8-3 record and a berth in the 2002 NEFC championship game. In 2001 Zamora was a Hewlett Packard first team All American and a third team d3football.com selection. Zamora was the anchor of the Owls' defense that led the nation in total defense each of the past two seasons.

Hockey Team In Contention

The Westfield State College ice hockey team started the spring semester with an 8-4 victory over Central Connecticut State.

Scoring two goals apiece were Don Corboserio and James Carapella. Archie Kalezic had a goal and three assists. Goalie Ardian Kalezic recorded 40 saves.

Last Tuesday, the Owls dropped a tough 4-3 league matchup at Sienna. Westfield was 12-3-1 overall heading into its two key home games this past weekend vs. Marist and New York University. Two of Westfield's three losses have been to Sienna.

Despite the setback, the Owls still remain in second place in the Super East Collegiate Hockey League. They conclude the regular season when they play first place Stony Brook University this Saturday, Feb. 8, at the Nassau Coliseum on Long Island. Later that day the New York Islanders – coached by Westfield State alumnus Peter Laviolette – will host the Buffalo Sabres.

Track Results Quad Meet @MIT

MEN TEAM STANDINGS: MIT 238; Williams 164.5; RPI 147.5; Westfield 36.
SECOND: 4 x 400 Relay, 3:33.1.
THIRD: Ryan Fregeau, 400, 52.47.
FOURTH: Aaron Larcom, 55 dash, 6.71; Mat LeMaire, 55 hurdles, 8.24.
SIXTH: Tom Bousquet, mile run, 4:34.58; Daniel Dillard, long jump, 20-9; Tom Gilbert, weight throw, 45-2 1/4.
SEVENTH: Aaron Larcom, 200, 23.94; Eric Kelly, 400, 53.40; Tom Gilbert, shot put, 43-11 3/4.

WOMEN TEAM STANDINGS: Williams 222; MIT 141; RPI 132; Westfield 69.
FIRST: Jess Silva, 800, 2:23.4; 2 x 200 relay, 1:55.77.
SECOND: Kristen Esposito, 55 dash, 7.76; Kristen Esposito, 200, 27.43; Danyelle Dillard, 400, 1:04.88; Danyelle Dillard, long jump, 16-1.
THIRD: Heather Wenninger, 3000 meters, 11:17.42.
FOURTH: Caitlin Costello, 55 hurdles, 10.06; Jennifer Howard, high jump, 5-0.
FIFTH: Sheila Mulherin, mile run, 5:51.11.
SEVENTH: KellyRose O'Brien, 400, 1:13.06.
EIGHTH: Aimee Worcester, mile run, 6:20.59.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Westfield 76 – Fitchburg 70

WESTFIELD – Senior guard Brenda Knott (Dudley, Mass.) scored 22 points, including seven of Westfield State's school record 11 3-point baskets made, and senior forward Alissa Tedesco (Mashpee) tallied 16, including eight straight during a crucial second-half run, to lead Westfield State to a hard-fought 76-70 conference victory over Fitchburg State.

Westfield (10-4, 3-1) led by 11

Senior guard Brenda Knott tied her career best by canning seven 3-point baskets in a 76-70 victory over Fitchburg State. The Owls set a team school record by making 11 3-pointers in the game.

Owls Outswim St. Joseph

WEST HARTFORD, Conn. – The Westfield State women's swimming and diving team upped its record to 4-2 with 166-109 victory over Saint Joseph College on Wednesday, Jan. 29.

The Owls trailed 56-52 after six events before they began pulling away. Freshman standout Vanessa Morton of Wellfleet was a triple winner, placing first in the 50 freestyle, 100 freestyle and 100 individual medley. She set new pool records in the 50 free and 100 IM.

Freshman Lindsey Bartosz of Chicopee won the 50 backstroke and the 100 backstroke. Also placing first were senior Kelley Reardon of Chelmsford in the one-meter diving and freshman Shannon McMahon of Pittsfield in the 50 butterfly.

McMahon also earned points with a second place in the 100 breaststroke. Junior Nicole Acheson earned seconds in the 100 and 200 freestyles.

Westfield's final home meet is Saturday, Feb. 8, when it hosts Eastern Connecticut at 1:00 p.m.

Westfield To Honor Women In Sport

Feb. 2003

Westfield State College will celebrate National Girls and Women In Sports Day (NGWSD) for the sixth consecutive year on Tuesday, Feb. 4. Nationally, NGWSD has been celebrated for 17 consecutive years and the 2003 theme is "Succeed in Sports, Lead in Life." The purpose of the day is to highlight the importance of sports participation in future success.

NGWSD began in 1987 as a day to remember Olympic volleyball player Flo Hyman for her athletic achievements and her work to assure equality for women's sports Since her death in 1986, NGWSD has evolved into a day to acknowledge the past and to recognize current sports achievements, the positive influence of sports participation, and the continuing struggle for equality and access for women in sports.

"Here at Westfield State our athletes work very hard at their sport and at academics," said Nancy Bals, Westfield State assistant athletics director. "We want to recognize them for their efforts and their contributions and let them know how proud we are of their accomplishments."

All Westfield State College female athletes will be recognized during halftime of the women's basketball game vs. Bridgewater State Feb. 4. The game begins at 6:00 p.m. In addition, one NGWSD honoree will be named from each team. Last year's honorees were:

Athletic training, Lisa D'Amato; basketball, A.J. LaBelle; football/basketball cheering, Erin Leahy; competition cheering, Michelle Holland; cross country, Starr Hockenberry; field hockey, Alison Pratt and Nikki Girolamo; soccer, Kelly Furlong; softball, Sarah Kalagher; swimming and diving, Colleen Boisvert; track and field, Jess Silva; volleyball, Katie Simlick.

Senior guard Shawn Jones was recently named Mass. State Conference Player of the Week. The Springfield native leads the conference in scoring, averaging 24.5 points per game.

Men's Soccer Coach Resigns

Paul Whalley recently resigned as head coach of the Westfield State College men's soccer team.

The Chicopee native and Southwick resident made a significant impact during his six-year tenure as Westfield State's head coach. During that span, the Owls posted a 63-40-6 record, were ranked in the top 10 in New England four years, and particpated in the NCAA Tournament once and the ECAC Tournament twice.

In 1997 he was named the conference coach of the year as he led the 13-4-1 Owls to their first Mass. State Conference championship in 17 years and their first ECAC Tournament berth in 10 years. In 2000, Whalley guided Westfield to a 15-5 record, the conference championship, and into the second round of the NCAA Tournament.

"I am very proud of the team's accomplishments over the past six years. Two league championships, two ECAC tournaments, and one NCAA tournament berth had to be the highlights," said Whalley, who is the vice president of Whalley Computer Associates in Southwick. "I have enjoyed coaching at Westfield State tremendously and I will miss the daily interaction with the players. Yet, there are so many exciting things left to do that coaching does not allow time for."

"Paul did a fantastic job of rejuvenating the men's soccer program," said Westfield State athletics director Ken Magarian. "He was a tireless recruiter and we here at Westfield State understand his reasons for resigning. We wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors."

2002 - 2003

Men's Basketball Wins 3rd Straight

Feb. 2003

Westfield 100 – Becker 64

LEICESTER – The Westfield State men's basketball team won its third straight game by cruising to a 100-64 victory over Becker College on Tuesday, Jan. 28.

The Owls improved to 5-10 heading into last Thursday's home conference game vs. Framingham State. Becker is 4-10.

The senior quartet of Shawn Jones, Mitch Mitchell, Ethan Slavin and Bryant James again led the Owls, who jumped out to a 46-25 halftime lead.

Jones, who entered the game averaging 24.3 points, finished with 25 points. Mitchell and Slavin scored 17 and 13, respectively. James totaled nine points, eight rebounds, six steals and five assists. Sophomore center Eric Gonynor came off the bench to contribute seven points and eight rebounds.

Westfield 74 – Fitchburg 69

WESTFIELD – Senior guard Shawn Jones (Springfield) had 23 points, six assists and three steals and senior forward Bryant James (Holyoke) recorded 15 points and 13 rebounds to lead Westfield State to a 74-69 victory over Fitchburg.

The Owls (4-10, 1-3) held on for their first Mass. State Conference victory despite making only 13 of 33 free throws, including 10 straight misses in the closing minutes. Fitchburg (2-11, 0-3) led 42-37 halftime but the Falcons were outscored in the second half, 37-27, as they were only 9 of 26 from the field.

Westfield also received a strong effort from junior first-year player Mike Cotrone, a 6-4, 230-pound forward from Suffield, Conn. Cotrone, who was the defensive MVP of the Owls' soccer team this past season, scored a career-high 13 points and grabbed six rebounds.

Westfield senior guard Ethan Slavin contributed 11 points, four assists and two steals.

Senior forward Joe Howell (Norwalk, Conn.) led Fitchburg with 20 points, 14 rebounds, and four steals.

points, 42-31, early in the second half. But Fitchburg (7-7, 1-2) mounted a comeback led by freshman forward Jen Fontaine (Dracut), who scored all but four of her game-high 26 points in the second half.

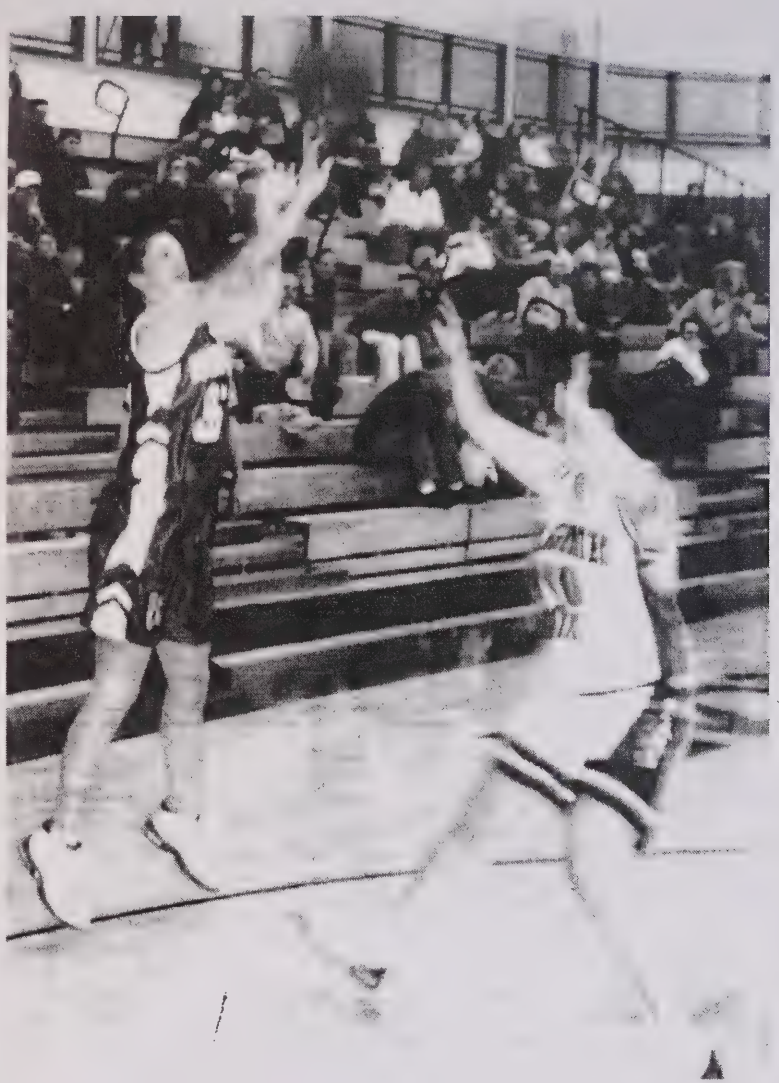
The Falcons went on a 13-0 run, including seven straight points from Fontaine, during a six-minute stretch to take a 49-46 lead with 10:07 remaining. But Westfield regained the lead for good sparked by the outside shooting of Tedesco, who made four consecutive baskets, including two 3-pointers.

Tedesco and Knott hit back-to-back treys to give the Owls a 61-55 lead with 6:08 remaining. Westfield increased its lead to 11, 68-57, with 2:51 left, but Fontaine kept the game in doubt as she scored the final 13 points for the Falcons.

Registered a double-double for Westfield was senior center Melissa Cote (Feeding Hills) with 12 points and 15 rebounds. Fitchburg sophomore Samantha Sweeney (Haverhill) also played well with 18 points and 11 rebounds.

In addition to setting a school record for 3-point baskets made with 11, the Owls tied a school record for 3-point attempts with 27. Knott was 7 of 13 from beyond the arc.

Basketball Teams



Senior forward Alissa Tedesco has emerged as a key member of the Westfield State women's basketball team this season. Tedesco has made the Mass. State Conference weekly honor roll twice this season on the strength of her shooting prowess. The Owls host Salem State in a huge conference game on Tuesday, Feb. 11, at 6:00 p.m. *Mickey Curtis Photo*

2002-2003

2002-2003

Feb 2003

Hockey Team Is A Top Seed In Playoffs

The Westfield State College ice hockey team edged New York University, 6-5, and tied Marist College, 2-2, in its final home games on Jan. 31-Feb. 1.

The Owls improved to 12-3-2 overall and 9-2-2 in the Super East Collegiate Hockey League. The second-place Owls concluded the regular season when they played first place Stony Brook University Saturday, Feb. 8, at the Nassau Coliseum on Long Island. Later that day the New York Islanders – coached by Westfield State alumnus Peter Laviolette – hosted the Buffalo Sabres.

Westfield returns to action this weekend (Feb. 14-16) when it participates in the Super East Collegiate Hockey League playoffs, which will be played in Newburgh, N.Y. and hosted by Marist College.

The Owls received two goals from Bill Ahern in the victory over NYU. Ryan Lawless of Enfield, Conn., recorded a goal and an assist. Also scoring were Keith Nadeau of Enfield, Conn., Seth Oppenheim and Don Corbosiero. Goalie Dustin Durej of Springfield recorded 30 saves.

Scoring in the deadlock with Marist were Corbosiero and Archie Kalezic, who leads the Owls in scoring with 38 points (13 goals, 25 assists).

Goalie Ardian Kalezic recorded 27 saves.

Swim Team Secures Winning Year

BRIDGEWATER – The Westfield State women's swimming and diving team upped its record to 5-2 with a 156-137 victory over rival Bridgewater State on Feb. 1.

The victory assured the Owls of veteran coach Dave Laing their 10th straight winning season.

Freshmen Vanessa Morton (Wellfleet) and Lindsey Bartosz (Chicopee) and senior diver Kelley Reardon (Chelmsford) keyed the victory. Morton was a triple winner, taking first in the 200 freestyle, 100 butterfly, and 100 individual medley. Bartosz won the 50 and 100 backstrokes, while Reardon outpointed the competition in the one and three meter diving events.

Freshman Laura McCormack (Saugus) finished first in the 500 freestyle and second in the 1000 freestyle. Freshman Shannon McMahon (Pittsfield) placed second in three events: the 50 and 100 breaststrokes and 50 butterfly.

FIRST: Vanessa Morton, 200 freestyle, 2:08.78; Vanessa Morton, 100 butterfly, 1:05.22; Vanessa Morton, 100 individual medley, 1:05.78; Lindsey Bartosz, 50 backstroke, 31.53; Lindsey Bartosz, 100 backstroke, 1:08.72; Kelley Reardon, one-meter diving, 204.40; Kelley Reardon, three-meter diving, 190.65; Laura McCormack, 500 freestyle, 5:57.78.

SECOND: Laura McCormack, 1000 freestyle, 12:39.44; Shannon McMahon, 50 breaststroke, 36.65; Shannon McMahon, 100 breaststroke, 1:20.78; Shannon McMahon, 50 butterfly, 30.50; Jenn Gilbert, 50 freestyle, 28.34; Clare Cournoyer, one-meter diving, 195.10; Nicole Spataro, 500 freestyle, 5:59.13.

Westfield 120 – Salem State 98

SALEM – Westfield State cruised to a 120-98 victory over Salem State on Feb. 5.

Placing first were Laura McCormack (200 freestyle, 2:13.96 and 100 breaststroke, 1:22.22), Vanessa Morton (50 backstroke, 30.73), Shannon McMahon (100 butterfly, 1:09.03), Heather Nelson (50 freestyle, 29.74), Kelley Reardon (one-meter diving, 203.55), Nicole Acheson (100 freestyle, 1:07.33), and Nicole Spataro (100 backstroke, 1:08.16).

Earning second places were: Jenn Gilbert (50 backstroke), Katie Abare (50 breaststroke), Spataro (100 butterfly), and Erin Flynn (50 freestyle, 100 freestyle).

Co-captain and diver Kelley Reardon was one of five seniors who competed in her final home meet on Saturday, Feb. 8. The Owls owned a 6-2 record heading into the season finale to clinch their 10th straight winning season. *Mickey Curtis Photo*

Silva Ranked Nationally In 800

Feb. 2003

Track Wins Invite

NORTON - The Westfield State men's indoor track and field team turned in an impressive performance by placing first in the 10-team Wheaton Invitational on Saturday, Feb. 1.

The Owls compiled 127 points to defeat highly regarded Wheaton, who placed second with 97 points.

Placing first for the Owls were junior Mat LeMaire (55 hurdles), freshman Shawn McCorquodale (triple jump), and senior Tom Gilbert (20 pound weight throw).

The Owls also received fine second-place performances from sophomore Aaron Larcom (55 dash), senior Ryan Fregeau (200), freshman Daniel Dillard (long jump) and the 4.x 400 relay team.

Finishing first for Westfield in the women's meet was junior Jess Silva, who was clocked in 2:17.62 in the 800 meter run. Silva's winning time is currently the fourth best in the nation in NCAA Division III.

The women's 4 x 200 relay of Silva and freshmen Kristen Esposito, Jill Byrne and Danyelle Dillard finished fourth but set a school record with a time of 1:51.21.

The Westfield men and women have a big meet this Saturday, Feb. 15, when they compete in the New England Alliance championships at Southern Maine.

Wheaton Invitational Results

MEN'S STANDINGS: 1. Westfield State 127; 2. Wheaton 97; 3. WPI 82; 4. Bryant 59; 5. Bridgewater State 54; 6. Fitchburg State 36; 7. Salem State 31; 8. Hartwick 24; 9. Worcester State 22; 10. Community College of Rhode Island 10.

FIRST: Mat LeMaire, 55 hurdles, 8.06; Shawn McCorquodale, triple jump, 41-1/2; Tom Gilbert, 20 pound weight throw, 48-7 1/4.

SECOND: Aaron Larcom, 55 dash, 6.73; Ryan Fregeau, 200, 23.10; 4 x 400 relay, 3:33.44; Daniel Dillard, long jump, 21-3 1/4.

THIRD: Ryan Fregeau, 55 dash, 6.75; Geoff Churchill, 1000, 2:46.24; Tom Bousquet, 1500, 4:12.93; Tom Gilbert, shot put,43-10 1/2.

FOURTH: Tom Bousquet, 800, 2:07.15; David Richardson, high jump, 6-2 3/4; Jim Foley, triple jump, 39-4 1/2; Mark Howard, 20 pound throw, 42-9 1/2

FIFTH: Mat LeMaire, 55 dash, 6.95; Greg Aucoin, 200, 23.88; Matt Frederick, 800, 2:08.15; Shawn McCorquodale, long jump 20-5 1/4; Matt Dissell, shot put, 40-9 1/2.

SIXTH: Daniel Dillard, 400, 53.17; Aaron Larcom, long jump, 20-1/4.

WOMEN'S STANDINGS: 1. Wheaton 193; 2. Holy Cross 119.5; 3. WPI 62; 4. Mt. Holyoke 54.5; 5. Hartwick 38; 6. Westfield State 26; 7. Bridgewater State 25; 8. Bryant 21; 9. Wellesley 20; 10. Fitchburg State 4; 11. Salem State 4; 12. Brandeis 1; 12. Community College of Rhode Island 1.

FIRST: Jess Silva, 800, 2:17.62.

FOURTH: 4 x 200 Relay, 1:51.21; Danyelle Dillard, long jump, 15-7 3/4.

SIXTH: Jen Howard, high jump, 5-1.

SEVENTH: Kristen Esposito, 400, 1:02.13.

Track and Field Results

Tufts Invitational
February 8, 2003

MEN'S TEAM STANDINGS: Tufts 142; Ithaca 106; Bates 102; Colby 82; **WESTFIELD 77;** Stonehill 74; Wheaton 53; Bridgewater State 28; New Paltz 25; Worcester State 15; Rhode Island College 6; Salem State 6; Community College of Rhode Island 5.

FIRST: 4 x 200 relay (Ryan Fregeau, Eric Kelly, Aaron Larcom, Greg Aucoin), 1:32.71.

SECOND: Aaron Larcom, 55 dash, 6.65; David Richardson, high jump, 6-5 1/2; Tom Gilbert, shot put, 44-11 3/4.

THIRD: Daniel Dillard, long jump, 20-9 3/4; Tom Gilbert, weight throw, 48-8.

FOURTH: Mat LeMaire, 55 hurdles, 8.18; 4 x 400 relay (Fregeau, McCorquodale, Kelly, Chris Hume), 3:33.51.

FIFTH: Ryan Fregeau, 55 dash, 6.82; Ryan Fregeau, 200, 23.26; Shawn McCorquodale, triple jump, 41-1/2.

SIXTH: Shawn McCorquodale, long jump, 20-2 1/4.

SEVENTH: Geoff Churchill, 600, 1:30.03.

WOMEN'S TEAM STANDINGS: Tufts 220.5; Wheaton 197; Stonehill 85; New Paltz 83; Bridgewater State 55; **WESTFIELD 31.5;** Community College of Rhode Island 13; Worcester State 11.

THIRD: Kristen Esposito, 55 dash, 7.72; Danyelle Dillard, 200, 27.07.

FOURTH: Kristen Esposito, 200, 27.09; Heather Wenninger, 3000 meter run, 11:12.83.

FIFTH: Caitlin Costello, triple jump, 31-10.

SEVENTH: Danyelle Dillard, long jump, 14-5.

2002-2003

Feb 2003

The Westfield State College swimming and diving team began a new era with the dedication of its new timing system and scoreboard before a large crowd at the Ely Pool on Feb. 8. "We have always dreamed of having our own timing system and after 21 years it is now a reality," said Dave Laing, who has coached the program since its inception in 1982. The Daktronics timing and touchpad system was obtained through a significant contribution from Ed and Cindy Acheson, parents of Westfield State swimmers Nicole and Lindsay Acheson. Participating in the dedication in the front row, left to right, are: Lindsay Acheson, Nicole Acheson and Cindy Acheson. Back row: Laing, Ed Acheson, Barry Maloney, assistant to the president, and Brent Bean, staff assistant in the development office, which also assisted greatly in funding the scoreboard and timing system.

Mickey Curtis Photo

Swim Team Ends With 7-2 Record

WESTFIELD – The Westfield State women's swimming and diving team registered a 149-113 victory over Eastern Connecticut State on Saturday, Feb. 8.

The Owls finished their dual meet season with a 7-2 record; it is their 10th consecutive winning season. Westfield concludes its season on Feb. 21-23 when it competes in the New England championships at Bentley College. Sixteen of the Owls' 22 swimmers will be competing at New Englands.

Freshman standout Vansessa Morton (Wellfleet) finished first in the 200 freestyle and 100 individual medley and second in the 200 butterfly. Freshman Lindsey Bartosz (Chicopee) won both the 50 and 100 backstroke.

Heather Nelson was first in the 50 freestyle and second in the 100 freestyle, while Laura McCormack finished first in the 500 freestyle and second in the 200 freestyle. Placing second in three events (1000 freestyle, 50 backstroke, 100 backstroke) was Nicole Spataro.

FIRST: Vanessa Morton, 200 freestyle, 2:08.36; Vanessa Morton, 100 individual medley, 1:07.35; Lindsey Bartosz, 50 backstroke, 31.64; Lindsey Bartosz, 100 backstroke, 1:08.47 ; Heather Nelson, 50 freestyle, 28.03; Kelley Reardon, one-meter diving, 215.70; Laura McCormack, 500 freestyle, 5:50.76.

SECOND: Nicole Spataro, 1000 freestyle, 12:30.25; Laura McCormack, 200 freestyle, 2:13.83; Nicole Spataro, 50 backstroke, 32.11; Vanessa Morton, 100 butterfly, 1:04.14; Jaclyn Casali, 50 freestyle, 28.82; Clare Cournoyer, one-meter diving, 199.85; Heather Nelson, 100 freestyle, 1:01.93; Nicole Spataro, 100 backstroke, 1:08.88; Shannon McMahon, 100 breaststroke, 1:21.32.

2002-2003

Men's Basketball Nips Salem To Post Eighth Straight Win

Feb 2003

Westfield 76 – Salem State 75

WESTFIELD – Senior guard Shawn Jones had 28 points, nine rebounds and five assists to lead the streaking Westfield State men's basketball team to a 76-75 victory over Salem State.

The Owls won their eighth straight game to improve to 10-10 overall and 6-3 in the conference. Salem, 15-5 overall and 6-2 in the conference, is now a half a game behind Worcester State (7-2).

Westfield survived a second-half Salem comeback to post its second home win over the Vikings in the past two years. The Owls led 50-37, with 13:51 remaining, then Salem gradually cut into the lead with a fierce fullcourt defense.

Leading the Viking comeback was junior guard Ray Williams, who scored 19 of his team-high 21 points in the second half. Williams gave Salem its only second-half lead, 73-72, when he drained a 3-pointer with 3:16 remaining.

Westfield regained the lead, 74-73, when Ethan Slavin hit two free throws at the 2:43 mark. The Owls went ahead 76-73 when Bryant James muscled his way inside for a lay-in with 1:12 remaining.

Both teams struggled in the frantic final minute. Tom Sullivan hit a lay-in as Salem closed to within a point, 76-75,with 52 seconds left.

Westfield's Mitch Mitchell then turned over the ball on a drive in the lane with 30 seconds remaining, allowing Salem a final shot.

Salem's Bobby Michalczyk was heavily guarded, however, when he shot an airball from eight feet out on the left wing. The Owls gained possession after it went out of bounds and Mitchell was fouled with 7.9 seconds remaining.

Mitchell missed the front end of a one-and-one and Salem grabbed the rebound. Opting not to call a timeout, the Vikings worked the ball around the perimeter but never got off a shot as time expired with the ball in Williams' hands at the top of the key.

Westfield 79 – Worcester 75

WORCESTER – Senior guard Ethan Slavin scored 21 points to lead the Westfield State men's basketball team to a 79-75 victory over Worcester State.

Slavin was one of four seniors in double figures in the Owls' balanced scoring attack, and one of five players to make a 3-point basket. He drained 5 of 8 3-point attempts.

Shawn Jones scored 18 points despite being plagued by foul trouble in the second half. Senior forward Bryant James contributed 13 points and a game-high 12 rebounds and senior guard Mitch Mitchell scored 13 points. Playing well off the bench was 6-8 sophomore Eric Gonynor, who finished with seven points and five rebounds.

The Owls had three scoring spurts in the game, including two in the second half to pull off the big road victory that knocked Worcester State out of a first place tie.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Salem State 75 – Westfield 73

WESTFIELD – Senior guard Kara Smolinsky scored a game-high 25 points as Salem State outlasted Westfield State, 75-73.

Salem is now 16-4 overall and 8-0 in the conference, while Westfield is 15-5 and 7-2.

Led by Smolinsky and a strong interior game, the Vikings took a 16-point lead, 61-45, with 10:23 remaining. But the Owls were able to make the game somewhat interesting in the closing minute as they capitalized on Salem's free throw shooting woes. The Vikings made only 21 of 43 free throws, including 10 of 21 in the second half.

Trailing by 10, Westfield scored eight consecutive points in the final 30 seconds, including a shot at the buzzer.

Freshmen forwards Lekeiska Walker (Springfield) and Amanda Chapin (Westfield) combined for more than half of the Owls' points. Walker finished with 21 points, nine rebounds, two blocks and three steals. Chapin came off the bench to score a season-best 19 points and grab eight rebounds.

Westfield 51 - Worcester 49

WORCESTER – Freshman guard Meghan McCarthy (Belchertown) made a driving layup with 1.9 seconds remaining in overtime to lift Westfield State to a 51-49 victory over Worcester.

Following a shot clock violation by Worcester State with 7.3 seconds remaining in overtime, the Owls set up McCarthy's game-winning shot. She dribbled the length of the court for the layup under the outstretched arm of Worcester 6-4 center Jenn Harris.

2002-2003

Hockey Team Stuns Stony Brook; Shares Title

LONG ISLAND, N.Y. - The Westfield State College ice hockey team rallied from a 4-1 third-period deficit to stun Stony Brook University, 5-4, and clinch a share of the Super East Collegiate Hockey League regular season championship in a game played at the Nassau Coliseum Feb. 8.

The Owls, 14-3-2 overall, finished league play with a 10-2-2 record for 22 points. They shared the league title with Stony Brook (11-3 record), but more importantly, Westfield State earned the No. 1 seed in the SECHL's postseason playoffs by defeating Stony Brook twice during the eight-team league's round robin competition.

The SECHL's postseason tournament was held this past weekend at Newburgh, N.Y.

The regular season finale showdown between Westfield and Stony Brook was a preliminary game to the New York Islanders/Buffalo Sabres contest later that evening. The Islanders, coached by Westfield State graduate Peter Laviolette ('86), rallied for a 3-1 victory over Buffalo to keep their playoff hopes alive.

"Peter spoke at an alumni reception after our game and told the team (Westfield State) how proud he was of them," said Westfield State head coach Sean Provost. "He said that that we were an inspiration for him and his team."

The Owls seemed in awe of the huge NHL rink and its surroundings as they came out flat and trailed 4-1 after the first period.

Westfield tied the score seven minutes into the game on a powerplay goal by Mike Palazzola. But Stony Brook went on a scoring blitzkrieg with three unanswered goals to take a 4-1 lead with eight minutes remaining in the stanza.

"Stony Brook was all over us and we just couldn't get going," said Provost. "They physically dominated us in the first period."

After a scoreless second period in which the Owls also were outshot, Westfield leading scorer Archie Kalezic started the third-period comeback with a breakaway goal after stealing the puck to make the score 4-2 with 10:45 remaining.

The Owls scored 11 seconds later when they won the faceoff and Keith Nadeau crossed the redline and drilled a bullet into the net. Westfield tied the score with 6:08 remaining on Palazzola's second goal of the game.

Kalezic scored the game-winning goal with 2:09 remaining when he rifled a shot from the rightside over the goalie's shoulder. Bill Ahern assisted on the game-winner for his third assist of the game.

"It was unbelievable," said Provost. "Archie hit that puck so hard that he knocked the water bottle off the net."

Provost also had praise for his team's defense, which limited the Seawolves to just four shots in the third period.

"Our offense did a great job of coming back, but our defense also played well," said Provost. "The defenders were blocking a lot of shots."

Westfield goalie Ardian Kalezic was credited with 22 saves.

Men's Hoops Wins 13th Straight

The Westfield State men's basketball team kept its school-record winning streak intact as senior forward Bryant James (above) hit a 26-foot buzzer beater in a thrilling 59-56 overtime victory over Framingham. James also recently was named the Mass. State Conference player of the week. *Mickey Curtis Photo*

WESTFIELD – The Westfield State men's basketball team overcome a sluggish first half as it erupted for 62-second half points to defeat Massachusetts College, 95-62, in the opening round of the Mass. State Conference postseason tournament on Tuesday, Feb. 25

The Owls, 15-10 with a school-record 13 straight victories, played Worcester State in the tournament semifinals, this past Friday.

Westfield, which had bolted to a 26-4 start in a 92-75 over Mass. College last Saturday, only led the Trailblazers, 33-29 at halftime. But the Owls overwhelmed an undermanned MCLA in the second half while shooting 57 percent from the field and making 17 of 21 free throws. They scored 54 points in the first 15 minutes of the half for an 87-47 lead with 5:22 remaining.

Senior standout guard Shawn Jones led five Westfield players in double figures with 23 points, including 19 in the second half. The Springfield native also had seven assists and three steals. Senior power forward Bryant James had 13 points and seven rebounds. Scoring 11 points was junior reserve forward Allen Murray.

Westfield 59 – Fram. 56

FRAMINGHAM – Senior forward Bryant James' 26-foot buzzer beater capped an amazing Westfield State comeback as the Owls continued their brilliant late-season surge with a 59-56 victory over Framingham State.

"This was a great road victory for us," said Westfield State coach Rich Sutter, whose team scored teh game's final 15 points. "We've been battling adversity since the start of the season and the players came through again tonight. They never quit."

James nailed a picture perfect jumper that hit nothing but net for his sixth 3-point basket of the season. The Westfield players then rushed across the court and piled on the 6-2 power forward.

The Westfield State College hockey team celebrates on the ice of the Nassau Coliseum in Long Island, N.Y. after clinching a share of the Super East Collegiate Hockey League regular season championship with a 5-4 come-from-behind victory over Stony Brook. The Owls finished their season with a 15-4-2 record. Three of the losses were to Siena, including and 5-1 setback in the league's postseason tournament. Three Westfield State players were named to the league's regular season all-star squad. Sophomore Archie Kalezic - the Owls' leading scorer - was a first-team selection and sophomore B.J. Ahern - the second leading scorer - was a second team pick. Sohomore goalie Ardie Kalezic was an honorable mention selection. In additon, first-year Westfield coach Sean Provost was chosen the league's coach of the year. *Photo By David Harris Fried*

2002-2003

Men's Track Finishes First In Alliance Championships

March 2003

Track Results

New England Alliance Men's Track and Field Championships

MEN'S STANDINGS: WESTFIELD STATE 159; Keene State 96; Southern Maine 80; Eastern Connecticut State 72.5; Rhode Island College 69; Worcester State 49.5; UMass Dartmouth 45; Salem State 37; Bridgewater State 31; Fitchburg State 24.

FIRST: Aaron Larcom, 55 dash, 6.68; Ryan Fregeau, 200, 22.7; Mat LeMaire, 55 hurdles, 7.95; 4 x 400 Relay, 3:28.53; Shawn McCorquodale, long jump, 21-5 ; Shawn McCorquodale, triple jump, 42-4; Tom Gilbert, shot put, 47-2.

SECOND: Ryan Fregeau, 55 dash, 6.77; David Richardson, high jump, 6-3; Daniel Dillard, long jump 20-5; Kyle Piazza, shot put, 42-5; Tom Gilbert, 35 pound weight throw, 49-3/4.

THIRD: Greg Aucoin, 200, 23.90; David Richardson, long jump, 19-6; Matt Dissell, shot put, 41-1.

FOURTH: Aaron Larcom, 200, 24.01; Dave Bergeron, long jump, 19-2.

FIFTH: Mat LeMaire, 200, 24.03.

SIXTH: Mat LeMaire, 55 dash, 6.94; Kyle Lawson, 400, 53.33; Mark Howard, 35 pound weight throw, 45-2.

SEVENTH: Tom Bousquet, 3000, 9:05.74; 4 x 800 Relay, 8:33.52; Eric Kelly, high jump, 5-9.

EIGHTH: Daniel Dillard, 400, 53.48; Chris Hume, 55 hurdles, 8.69.

New England Alliance Women's Track and Field Championships

WOMEN'S TEAM STANDINGS: Southern Maine 192; Keene State 185; WESTFIELD STATE 91; Bridgewater State 59; Rhode Island College 47; Eastern Connecticut State 43; UMass Dartmouth 22; Fitchburg State 22; Worcester State 15; Salem State 7.

FIRST: Jess Silva, 800, 2:18.94.

SECOND: Danyelle Dillard, 200, 27.07; 4 x 400 Relay, 4:16.53; 4 x 200 Relay, 1:49.1.

THIRD: Kristen Esposito, 55 dash, 7.82; Kristen Esposito, 400, 61.77; Heather Wenninger, 3000, 10:54.39; Jenn Howard, high jump, 4-11.

FOURTH: Kristen Esposito, 200, 27.15; 4 x 800 Relay, 11:07.97.

FIFTH: Jess Silva, 55 dash, 7.9; Danyelle Dillard, 400, 62.41; Danyelle Dillard, long jump, 15-10; Caitlin Costello, triple jump, 31-8.

SIXTH: Caitlin Costello, long jump, 15-2.

SEVENTH: Sheila Mulherin, 1500, 5:18.2; Caitlin Costello, 55 hurdles, 10.11.

GORHAM, Maine – The Westfield State men brought back the first place trophy and the Westfield State women finished third in the sixth annual New England Alliance indoor track and field championships held at the University of Southern Maine.

The Westfield men compiled 159 points to easily outdistance Keene State (96) in the 10-team meet. The Westfield women placed third with 91 points, trailing Southern Maine (192) and Keene State (185).

It was the Westfield men's third championship as they set a meet record for most points scored. The Owls also captured the Alliance title in 1998 and 2000; they placed a close second in 1999, 2001, and 2002.

In the men's meet, the Owls placed first in seven events and second in five events while dominating the sprints, jumps and weight throws. In the long jump, for instance, the Owls took the top four places and all four were freshmen. In the shot put they took the top three spots, and in the 200 they placed 1-2-3-5.

Shawn McCorquodale was the only individual double winner for the Owls, with impressive efforts in the long jump (21-5) and the triple jump (42-4 3/4).

Senior Ryan Fregeau, also from Athol, won the 200 in 22.7 and placed second behind sophomore Aaron Larcom (Lynn/Danvers High School) in the 55 dash. Larcom, who also finished fourth in the 200, was clocked in 6.68 followed by Fregeau in 6.77.

Senior Tom Gilbert (Amherst) easily won the shot put with a heave of 47-2; he also finished second in the 35-pound weight throw. Junior Mat LeMaire won the 55 hurdles (7.95) and finished fifth in the 200 and sixth in the 55 dash.

Also earning points in multiple events were freshmen David Richardson of Beverly (second, high jump; third, long jump) and Daniel Dillard of Winthrop (second, long jump; eighth, 400).

In the women's meet, the Owls received strong performances from junior Jess Silva and freshmen Danyelle Dillard, Kristen Esposito and Catlin Costello.

Silva was Westfield's lone Alliance champ, winning the 800 in 2:18.94. She also placed fifth in the 55 dash.

Dillard placed second in the 200 and fifth in both the 400 and long jump. Esposito was third in both the 400 and 55 dash and fourth in the 200. Esposito and Dillard also participated on the Owls' second place 4 x 200 and 4 x 400 relay squads. Costello was fifth in the triple jump, sixth in the long jump, and seventh in the 55 hurdles.

Placing third were freshman Heather Wenninger in the 3000 and Jenn Howard in the high jump.

Women's Basketball In Semis

WESTFIELD – Senior center Melissa Cote led four players in double figures with 17 points in Westfield State's 70-39 victory over Massachusetts College in the opening round of the Mass. State Conference postseason basketball tournament on Tuesday, Feb. 25.

Westfield, 18-7, played Worcester State in a tournament semifinal game last Thursday.

The Owls, who had defeated Mass. College, 86-46, three days ago, jumped out to a 42-17 halftime lead over the Trailblazers, who finished with 35 turnovers.

Senior forward Alissa Tedesco had 12 points and nine rebounds for Westfield and freshman forward Lekeisha Walker of Springfield finished with 10 points, 12 rebounds, two blocks and six steals. Reserve freshman forward Chrissy Tompkins scored 11 points.

2002-2003

Men's Track Places 9th At New Englands

March 2003

CAMBRIDGE - Westfield State College placed ninth in the New England Division III men's indoor track and field championships held Feb. 22 at MIT.

The Owls finished with 30 points in the 22-team meet as they earned All New England honors in seven events.

Senior standout Ryan Fregeau of Athol finished second in the 200 (22.77) and also anchored the 4 x 400 Relay that placed third in 3:26.92. Other relay members were freshmen Eric Kelly (Reading) and Daniel Dillard (Winthrop) and senior Chris Hume (Orange).

Sophomore Aaron Larcom of Lynn finished third in 55 dash (6.62). Finishing fifth were freshmen Shawn McCorquodale of Athol in the triple jump (43-5 1/4) and David Richardson of Beverly in the high jump (6-4 1/4).

Junior Mat LeMaire finished seventh in the pentathlon (3150 points) and Dillard was eighth in the long jump (21-5 3/4).

Just missing earning All New England accolades were senior Tom Gilbert of Amherst, who placed 10th in both the shot put and weight throw; LeMaire in the 55 hurdles, and McCorquodale in the long jump.

Two Westfield State athletes placed in the New England Division III women's indoor track and field championships held Feb. 22 at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine. Freshmen Kristen Esposito of Natick finished sixth in the 400 (1:00.74) and sophomore Jen Howard of Hanson was sixth in the high jump (4-11 3/4).

Junior standout Jess Silva of Reading was unable to compete in the 800 meter run because she was taking the state teacher's test.

Morton Leads Owls In NE Swim Finals

WALTHAM – The Westfield State College women's swimming and diving team finished 11th out of 20 teams in the New England Division II-III swimming and diving championships held Feb. 21-23 at Bentley College.

"Our team swam well," said Westfield coach Dave Laing.

Freshman standout Vanessa Morton of Wellfleet was the Owls' top performer in her first collegiate championship meet. Morton finished second in both the 100 backstroke (1:05.33) and the 100 individual medley (1:04.24) and placed fifth in the 50 freestyle (25.63).

Placing second in the one-meter diving (289.25 points) was senior diver Kelley Reardon of Chelmsford. Reardon finished fifth in the three-meter diving (324.95 points).

Also finishing fifth was freshman Lindsey Bartosz of Chicopee in the 50 backstroke (30.97). Sophomore Nicole Spataro of Melrose was 10th in both the 50 and 100 backstrokes. Freshman Shannon McMahon of Pittsfield earned points in three events: 11th in both the 200 individual medley and 100 individual medley and 12th in the 50 butterfly →

New England Division II-III Swimming and Diving Championships

TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Bentley 910; 2. Keene State 658; 3. Mass Dartmouth 601; 4. Brandeis 574; 5. St. Michael 527; 6. Plymouth State 470; 7. Simmons 409; 8. Bridgewater State 326.5; 9. Eastern Connecticut State 325; 10. Western New England 320; 11. Westfield State 283; 12. Regis 276; 13. Colby-Sawyer 202; 14. St. Joseph, CT 194; 15. Gordon 155; 16. Western Connecticut 52; 17. Elms 41.5; 18. Salem State 34; 19. Wheelock 25; 20. Norwich 0.

SECOND PLACE: Kelley Reardon, one-meter diving, 289.25; Vanessa Morton, 100 backstroke; 1:05.33; Vanessa Morton, 100 individual medley, 1:04.24.

FIFTH PLACE: Vanessa Morton, 50 freestyle, 25.63; Lindsey Bartosz, 50 backstroke, 30.97; Kelley Reardon, three-meter diving, 324.95.

10th PLACE: Nicole Spataro, 100 backstroke 1:06.31; Nicole Spataro, 50 backstroke, 31.83.

11th PLACE: Shannon McMahon, 200 individual medley, 2:31.44; 800 freestyle relay (Acheson, Bartosz, Spataro, McCormick), 9:03.52; Shannon McMahon, 100 individual medley, 1:08.95.

12th PLACE: Shannon McMahon, 50 butterfly, 30.47.

2002-2003

Sutter Coach Of Year

March 2003

Jones, Walker Earn Player, Rookie Honors In Hoops

Five members of the Westfield State basketball teams and a head coach were selected to the Mass. State Conference all-conference squads.

Heading the list were senior Shawn Jones, who was named the Mass. State Conference co-player of the year, and freshman forward Lekeisha Walker, who was named the conference rookie of the year. Earning ccach of the year honors was Rich Sutter, who led the men's basketball team to a school record 13 straight victories and a second place finish in the conference.

Jones, a talented 6-2 guard, shared player of the year honors with Salem State's Bobby Michalczyk. The Springfield native also received another prestigious honor as he selected to the d3hoops.com All-Northeast Region second team. Jones set a school record by averaging 24.6 points per game and also led the conference in assists (3.4) and steals (2.7) per game.

Jones currently ranks sixth nationally in scoring; the Sacred Heart University transfer poured in 614 points in his only season at Westfield, while shooting 80 percent (141 of 175) from the foul line and 44 percent (43 of 98) from 3-point range.

Walker, also a second team all-conference pick, led the Owls in scoring (11.6), rebounds (8.9), steals (2.9) and blocked shots.

Selected first team all-conference was senior center Melissa Cote, who averaged 9.9 points and 7.9 rebounds per game. The Agawam High School graduate ranks second on Westfield State's all-time list with 831 career rebounds and is 18th with 795 points.

Second team all-conference honorees were senior guards Ethan Slavin and Brenda Knott.

Slavin of Mohegan Lake, N.Y., (Lakeland High School) is one of the best shooting guards in Westfield State history. He currently ranks nationally in 3-point shooting and free throw shooting percentages, and for the past three seasons he was one of the top 3-point and free throw shooters in the Mass. State Conference.

This season the 5-10, 170-pounder averaged 11.5 points and 2.4 rebounds per game, while shooting 46 percent (62 of 134) from 3-point range and a school record 87 percent (60 of 69) from the foul line.

In his four years at Westfield State, Slavin scored 750 points and dished out 222 assists. He ranks second on Westfield's all-time list with 158 career 3-point baskets.

The senior captain also excels academically, maintaining nearly a 4.0 grade point average while majoring in communication, and he has been continually praised by head coach Rich Sutter for never being late for or missing a practice in four years.

Slavin's leadership and shooting prowess helped to lead Westfield State College basketball team to its most successful season in nine years.

The Owls posted a 15-11 record and finished second in the Mass. State Conference with a 9-3 mark, a game behind champion Salem State. After a slow start Westfield reeled off a school record 13 straight victories in the second half of the season.

Knott was a second team all-conference pick for the second consecutive year. She averaged 9.9 points per game while making a team-high 59 baskets from 3-point range. The Dudley, Mass., native is third on Westfield State's all-time list with 153 career 3-point baskets and ranks 17th with 806 points.

The Westfield State women posted an 18-9 record, finished second in the conference during the regular season, and qualified for the ECAC Tournament.

Westfield State freshman Lekeisha Walker was selected the Mass. State Conference rookie of the year. Walker led the Owls in scoring, rebounding, steals and blocked shots.

2001-2003

March 2003

Westfield State senior Shawn Jones was named Mass. State Conference co-player of the year. Jones, who ranks sixth nationally in scoring average (24.6 points per game) also was selected to the d3hoops.com All-Northeast Region second team. *Mickey Curtis Photo*

Student-Athlete Volunteers Needed

Student-athletes interested in spending just a few hours in an elementary or middle school between now and the end of the semester please contact Nancy Bals at 572-5515. This enjoyable opportunity will not take much time and is great for your résumé.

Massachusetts State College Athletics Conference

2002-2003 Howard C. Smith Cup Standings

Place	College	Points	Possible Points	Percentage
1.	Salem State	26.67	48	.556
2.	Worcester State	24	54	.444
3.	Bridgewater State	18.67	48	.389
4.	Westfield State	18	48	.375
5.	Framingham State	12	54	.222
6.	Mass. College	4	36	.111
7.	Fitchburg State	4.67	54	.086
8.	Mass. Maritime	0	24	.000

2002-2003

Tom Rivet Named Men's Soccer Coach

MARCH 2003

Tom Rivet has been named the new head coach of the Westfield State College men's soccer team.

Rivet, a Chicopee native, is a well known and highly respected coach in the Western Mass. area and beyond. He was the head coach at East Longmeadow High School from 1996-2001, and in six years he guided the program to two berths in the state finals and four regional championships. He was named the Western Mass. Division II coach of the year in 1996 and 1999.

Rivet also has coached numerous club youth teams to high rankings on the state, regional and national levels. The 1984 Chicopee Comp graduate was an assistant soccer coach at his high school alma mater from 1985-1993. He was an assistant coach at Western New England College (WNEC) in 1995 and has been a camp director of the Soccer Academy at WNEC since 1997. Rivet holds an "A" coaching license and an advanced national diploma from the National Soccer Coaches Association of America.

"Coaching at Westfield State will be a great challenge for me, a challenge that I am looking forward to," said Rivet. "The Westfield State soccer program has a strong tradition, a tradition committed to excellence, and I'm excited to have the opportunity to contribute to such a well respected program."

"We had a number of quality applicants for this position but Tom had the most impressive credentials," said Westfield State athletics director Ken Magarian. "And everybody we talked to had nothing but good things to say about Tom and the way he runs his programs and handles his players."

Rivet replaces Paul Whalley, 1971 Chicopee Comp and 1975 Westfield State graduate, as the head coach. During Whalley's six-year tenure as head coach, the Owls posted a 63-40-6 record, were ranked in the top 10 in New England four years, and participated in one NCAA Tournament and two ECAC Tournaments.

Silva 12th At Track Nationals

March 2003

Westfield State junior Jess Silva of Reading finished 12th in the 800 meter run at the NCAA Division III indoor track and field national championships held March 14-15 at DePauw University in Indiana.

Silva was timed in 2:16.82 – which nearly equaled her personal best - despite breaking stride several times in the highly competitive race. She qualified for nationals with a 2:16.67 clocking at the ECAC championships the previous week.

"It was a good experience for Jess," said Westfield State coach Sean O'Brien. "She kept trying to go to the inside but got boxed in about three times. Jess also was surprised at how physical the race was; there were a lot of elbows flying out there."

Her first two years at Westfield State Silva ran in the shorter races (100, 200, 400 meter dashes), where runners are required to remain in their lanes for the entire race.

March 24, 2003

Baseball Team Has Successful Southern Trip

HOMESTEAD, Fla. - The Westfield State baseball team completed its most successful southern trip in nine years as it defeated Marian College of Fond du Lac, Wis., 13-4, on Sunday, March 16.

"The wins are nice but I like the way these players have come together as a team," said first-year coach Tom Lo Ricco, whose squad went 6-3, including six wins in the final seven games.

Leading Marian 5-4 after six innings, the Owls broke open the game with an eight-run uprising in the seventh and final frame. Delivering the key hits in the seventh were Pat Ryan (two-run triple) and Tim Barry (two-run single).

Westfield outhit Marian, 9-8, but the Wisconsin college, which was just beginning its southern trip, committed five errors.

Ryan, a junior center fielder from Adams and a Mass. College transfer, was 2 for 5 with two triples to complete an outstanding nine-game southern swing with a .600-plus batting average. Senior Corey Scafidi had a triple, single and RBI.

Sophomore Tom Cousineau was the winning pitcher, while freshman standout Chris Visone (Windsor, Conn.) earned the Owls' third pitching save. Visone entered the game with no outs and two baserunners and Westfield holding a 5-2 lead.

Baseball Schedule

DATE		OPPONENT	TIME
	April		
Tue.	**1**	**EASTERN CONNECTICUT**	**3:00**
Thu.	**3**	**BECKER**	**3:00**
Sat.	5	at Salem State (2)	12:00
Tue.	**8**	**WILLIAMS**	**3:30**
Thu.	**10**	**WESTERN NEW ENGLAND**	**3:00**
Sat.	12	at Mass Maritime (2)	12:00
Tue.	15	at Western Connecticut	4:00
Thu.	**17**	**NICHOLS**	**3:00**
Sat.	**19**	**FITCHBURG STATE (2)**	**12:00**
Mon.	21	at Worcester State (2)	12:00
Thu.	24	at Keene State	3:30
Sat.	**26**	**BRIDGEWATER STATE (2)**	**12:00**
Tue.	29	at Massachusetts College (2)	2:00
	May		
Sat.	**3**	**FRAMINGHAM STATE (2)**	**12:00**
Mon.	5	at Springfield College	3:30
Thu.	8	Conference Tournament	TBA

Softball Goes 5-1 In South

MYRTLE BEACH, S.C. – The Westfield State College softball concluded its southern trip with a 7-0 victory over Delaware Valley College of Doylestown, Pa., on Thursday, March 13.

Westfield finished with a 5-1 southern record and knocked 7-1 Delaware Valley College from the unbeaten ranks.

"We had a great trip," said head coach Lou Ann Simchak, who is now patiently waiting for the snow to melt so her team can begin playing again. "We have a great group of players this year; we have excellent senior leadership and some talented first-year players."

The Owls took advantage of a shaky outing by Delaware Valley pitcher Katie Budlingnaier as they scored five first-inning runs on six walks and only one hit.

Leah Peterson twirled a one-hit shutout for the pitching victory. The sophomore lefty from Lakeville struck out seven and walked four. Peterson aided her own cause with a single and an RBI.

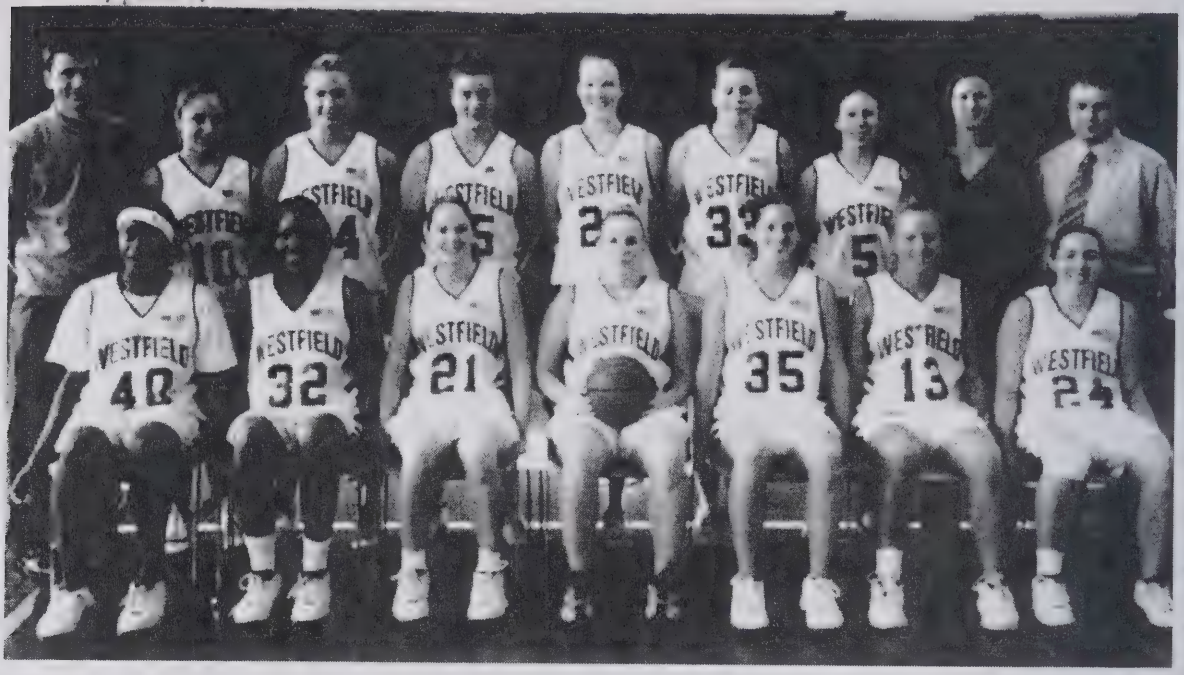
The Owls collected six hits, all singles, with no player having more than one hit.

Softball Schedule

DATE		OPPONENT	TIME
	April		
Tue.	**1**	**ELMS**	**4:00**
Sat.	5	at Salem State (2)	12:00
Tue.	8	at Western Connecticut (2)	4:00
Thu.	**10**	**KEENE STATE (2)**	**3:00**
Sat.	12	at Mass. Maritime (2)	12:00
Wed.	16	at Amherst (2)	3:30
Sat.	**19**	**FITCHBURG STATE (2)**	**12:00**
Mon.	21	at Worcester State (2)	12:00
Thu.	**24**	**RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE (2)**	**3:00**
Sat.	**26**	**BRIDGEWATER STATE (2)**	**12:00**
Tue	29	at Massachusetts College (2)	3:00
	May		
Thu.	1	Conference Tournament	TBA
Sat.	3	Conference Tournament	TBA
Sun.	4	Conference Tournament	TBA

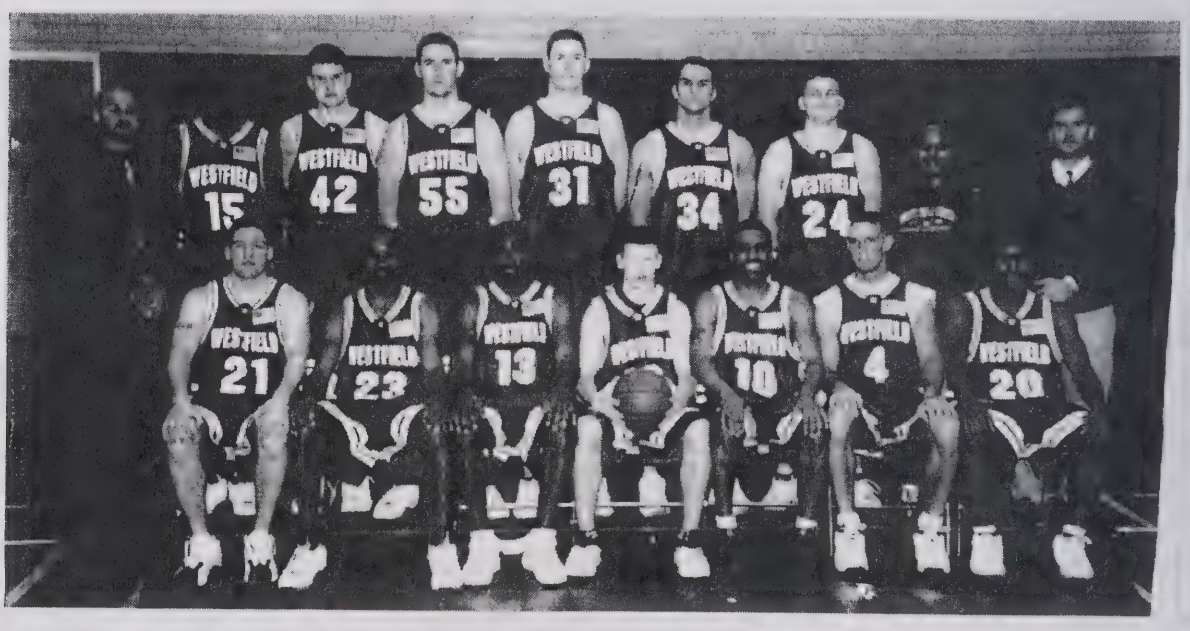
2002-2003

March 2003



Women's Basketball Team

First Row (L-R): Lekeisha Walker, Latesha Murphy, Melissa Cote, Brenda Knott, Alissa Tedesco, Leslie Cooke, Megan Santos. Second Row: assistant coach Bob D'Angelo, Kate Simonds, Chrissy Tompkins, Amanda Chapin, Katy Winter, Colleen Lennon, Meghan McCarthy, assistant coach Holly McGovern, head coach Steve Marcil.



Men's Basketball Team

First Row (L-R): Matt Yvon, Allen Murray, Bryant James, Ethan Slavin, Shawn Jones. Mitch Mitchell, Marcus Harris. Second Row: assistant coach Junior Delgado, James Ogbunize, Bob Marvel, Chris Gonynor, Eric Gonynor, Mike Cotrone, Joe Tomasini, student manager Vanessa Charlot, head coach Rich Sutter.

2002-2003

Swimming & Diving Team

March 2003

First Row (L-R): Jaclyn Casali, Shannon McMahon, Lindsey Bartosz, Laura McCormack, Vanessa Morton, Nikki Crowe. Second Row: Heather Nelson, Kelly Springham, Elizabeth Predella, Nicole Spataro, Jenny Gilbert, Becky Sirota, Erin Flynn, Dana LedDuke, Nicole Acheson. Third row: Mike Weaver, Scott Munroe, Katie Abare, Clare Cournoyer, Kristin Loiko, Colleen Boisvert, Kelley Reardon, Kim MacKenzie, Courtney Burden, Rob Barabani, Adam Green, head coach Dave Laing.

Student-Athlete Volunteers Needed

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2002-2003

Smith Outscores Owls In Softball Home Opener

WESTFIELD – A four-run uprising in the top of the sixth inning lifted Smith College to a 7-4 softball victory over Westfield State on Wednesday, March 26.

Smith improved to 7-4, with all four setbacks one-run losses. Westfield is 5-2 after dropping its home opener.

Smith scored a run in the first, then a run in the second on an RBI single by Roberta St. Peters (Leeds/ Northampton High School) to take an early 2-0 lead.

Westfield tied the score with single runs in the second and third, then scored twice in the fifth to take a 4-2 lead. Kate Pomerleau delivered the big blow in the fifth, an RBI double off the left field fence.

The Owls, who stranded 12 baserunners in the seven-inning game, had huge opportunity to increase their lead in the fifth with runners and second and third and no outs. But Erica Hubbard, the third of three Smith pitchers, struck out three straight batters.

Smith loaded the bases with one out in the top of the sixth, then Sara Watson delivered the big blow, a ringing double down the left field line that cleared the bases to give the visitors a 5-4 lead.

Every player hit safely in Smith's 13-hit attack. Watson was 2 for 3 and Sarah Beaudry of Springfield (Cathedral) was 2 for 3 with a double and two runs scored. Pittsfield native Dasen Woikowski was 2 for 4 with a double and two runs scored.

Casey Greggo and Pomerleau were both 2 for 4 with a double.

Peterson, Ryan Named Players Of Week

Westfield State's Pat Ryan earned Mass. State Conference baseball player of the week honors and Leah Peterson was named the conference softball pitcher of the week following the team's southern trip.

Ryan put on an incredible offensive display in nine games. The junior leadoff hitter scored 17 runs while batting .585 (24 for 41) and drawing six walks. The MCLA transfer also had three homers, three triples, four doubles, 11 RBI and seven stolen bases.

Peterson was 3-0 in the circle, including a 7-0 victory over previously undefeated Delaware Valley College of Pennsylvania. The sophomore lefty recorded 24 strikeouts with a 1.29 earned run average.

Selected to the conference's weekly honor rolls were junior third baseman Jenn Koziol, who batted 7 for 13, and sophomore pitcher Tom Cousineau, who was 2-0 with 12 strikeouts and a 1.93 ERA.

Westfield State's Shawn Jones picked up another prestigious award as he was selected to the ECAC Division III New England basketball All-Star second team. The 6-2 senior guard ranks seventh nationally in scoring, averaging a school record 24.56 points per game.

Competition Cheering Team

First Row (L-R): Jessica Hart, Sara Raymond, Stasi Randall, Eileen Sommer, Danielle Imprescia. Second row: Allison Vanasse, Ashley Kobuszewski, Andrea Sandoval, Meg Mondello, Holly Schmedding. Third row: Kelly Cline, Mike Meechin, Ryan Rowe, Dan Rice, Dan Sirois, Colleen Harrigan. Missing is Michelle Holland. *Photo By Mickey Curtis*

Track & Field Results

Springfield Invitational – March 29
Men's Track and Field Results

TEAM STANDINGS: RPI 253; Springfield 246; Westfield 101; SUNY Plattsburg 47.

SECOND: Shawn McCorquodale, 400, 52.09; Shawn McCorquodale, long jump, 22-1; Tom Bousquet, 1500, 4:15.24; Dave Bergeron, javelin, 176-11.
THIRD: 4 x 100 relay, 45.26; 4 x 400 relay, 3:34.03; Peter King, shot put, 45-1.75; Peter King, discus, 132-2.
FOURTH: Geoff Churchill, 1500, 4:26.30.
FIFTH: Andy Barron, 1500, 4:26.33; Mat LeMaire, 400 hurdles, 59.71; Josh Lewbel, long jump, 20-3.5; Mark Howard, hammer throw, 158-10.
SIXTH: Tom Gilbert, shot put, 42-11.75; Greg Haskell, javelin, 152-2.
SEVENTH: Greg Aucoin, 200, 24.02; Kyle Lawson, 400, 54.08; Matt Frederick, 1500, 5:15.93; Matt Dissell, shot put, 42-6.75.
EIGHTH: Matt Frederick, 800, 2:10.89.

Springfield Invitational – March 29
Women's Results

TEAM STANDINGS: Springfield 285.5; RPI 205.5; SUNY Plattsburg 68; Westfield 64.

FIRST: Kristen Esposito, 400, 1:01.74; Jen Howard, high jump, 5-0.25.
SECOND: 4 x 100 Relay, 52.9.
THIRD: Heather Wenninger, 1500, 5:21.38; 4 x 400 Relay, 4:23.55; Caitlin Costello, triple jump, 31-8.5.
FIFTH: Caitlin Costello, long jump, 14-3.25.
SIXTH: Colleen Boisvert, 400, 1:08.97; Jen Howard, 400 hurdles, 1:17.2.
SEVENTH: Jill Byrne, 1:10.28; Sheila Mulherin, 800, 2:40.25; Nicole Spataro, javelin, 82-1.
EIGHTH: Heather Wenninger, 800, 2:40.91; Christine Byrne, 1500, 6:12.74; Caitlin Bates, 5000, 23:39.1.

2002-2003

Defending NCAA Champs Edge Owls

April 2003

MANSFIELD, Conn. – Junior catcher Adam Hevenor hit a game-tying, two-out, three-run home run in the eighth inning and Morgan Thompson followed later in the inning with a tie-breaking single as Eastern Connecticut State rallied from a 4-1 deficit to edge Westfield State, 5-4, on Tuesday, April 1.

The defending NCAA Division III national champions improved to 13-4, while Westfield dropped to 6-7.

Hanover tied the game with a three-run shot over the left field fence off Westfield reliever Jared Seltzer on a 3-2 pitch. Jason Pekrul followed by reaching safely on an infield hit to third base. Pinch runner Tom Koch stole second before Thompson drilled an opposite-field RBI single over the head of shortstop Josh Gosselin.

The Owls took a 4-0 lead after two innings on a passed ball, RBI singles by Chris Visone and Mike Carney, and a solo home run from Shaun Geary. Eastern got a run back in the sixth when pinch hitter Justin McCulloch was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded.

Visone led Westfield with three hits. Brian Uliasz and Gosselin both had two hits. Westfield outhit the home team, 10-6.

Westfield freshman starting pitcher Joe Komow surrendered only one hit and left with a 4-0 lead after walking two and hitting a batter with one out in the sixth.

Sophomore righty Ben O'Brien, the third of four Eastern pitchers, was credited with the victory. Junior righty Joey Serfass earned his third save of the season by pitching the final two innings. Serfass allowed four baserunners but got two strikeouts and a double play in the eighth and stranded the tying run in the ninth with a first-pitch comebacker to Uliasz.

Baseball Swept By Albertus

HAMDEN, Conn. – Albertus Magnus College swept Westfield State College, 7-3 and 6-2, in a baseball doubleheader.

In the opener, Albertus (6-6) trailed 3-1 but earned the victory with a six-run uprising in the bottom of the sixth inning.

The Owls outhit Albertus 12-11 but stranded 10 baserunners. Freshman Chris Visone was 3 for 4 with a double and an RBI. Collecting two singles apiece were Mike Carney and Shane Higgins. Leadoff batter Pat Ryan tripled.

Jared Seltzer was the losing pitcher in relief of starter Tom Cousineau.

In the nightcap, Albertus jumped out to a 3-0 first-inning lead, including a solo homer by Jesse Seto. The Falcons added another run in the third on a solo homer by Jay Wyatt, then tacked on three insurance tallies in their final at bat.

Pat Ryan had two of Westfield's five hits and drove in a run.

Visone pitched the first three innings to take the mound loss.

Softball Splits

WESTFIELD – Westfield State and Framingham State split a doubleheader as the teams began Mass. State Conference.

In the opener, Framingham took advantage of numerous Westfield State miscues to record an 8-0 five-inning victory. Westfield came back to win the nightcap, 3-0, as junior Sarah Simmons tossed a 3-hit shutout.

Each team collected three hits – all singles – in the first game, but Westfield pitcher Leah Peterson had difficulty finding the plate the entire game. The sophomore lefty struck out seven but walked nine and threw five wild pitches.

In game two, the Owls manufactured their first run off losing pitcher Brittan Huntington in the fourth inning. Meg Perreault singled up the middle, went to second on a wild pitch, moved to third on B.J. Dion's sacrifice bunt, and scored on Suzie Scott's sacrifice fly to deep left field.

The Owls added two insurance runs in the sixth inning on a double steal by Perreault and Dion, followed by Jenn Koziol's two-out RBI double down the left field.

Koziol and sophomore catcher/designated hitter Liz Oliveira were both 2 for 4. Perreault was 1 for 2 and scored two runs.

Simmons was sharp on the mound, allowing three hits and two walks and striking out four. Framingham's only scoring threat was in the seventh inning when the Rams had two of their hits before Simmons got out of a two-out bases loaded jam.

Elms 7 - Softball 6

CHICOPEE – A four-run uprising in the fifth inning lifted Elms College to a 7-6 victory over Westfield State on April 1.

Elms improved to 7-4 while Westfield is 6-4.

Trailing 4-2, the Blazers loaded the bases with no outs in the fifth on a walk, an error and a hit batter. Lauren Stauch then delivered a two-run double in the left-center field gap and Amanda Huston followed with a two-run single.

Elms scored an unearned run in the sixth on a two-out double to take a 7-4 lead. Westfield closed two within a run, 7-6, when pinch hitter Kayla Banaszek blasted a two-out, two-run double.

Both teams collected eight hits. Sophomore infielder Amanda Fregeau and junior outfielder B.J. Dion both rapped two singles.

Student-Athlete Volunteers Needed

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2002-2003

Scholar-Athletes Gain Recognition

By Mickey Curtis, SID

Ninety-nine (99) Westfield State College students have been recognized as scholar-athletes for completing the 2002 fall semester with cumulative grade point averages of 3.0 or better.

The 3.0 Club represents approximately 33 percent of the student-athletes at Westfield State College. In addition, 39 percent of the student-athletes (124 of 315) earned a 3.0 or better semester grade point average.

"We are very proud of all our student-athletes; the way they perform on the playing fields and in the classroom," said Westfield State athletics director Ken Magarian. "I would especially like to thank the faculty, staff and coaches for their support and guidance."

The 3.0 Club students will be honored Thursday evening, April 17, at 6:30 p.m. at the sixth annual athletics academic reception in Scanlon Hall. The honorees will have an opportunity to invite one of their professors to the reception as their special guests.

The football team leads the way with 17 scholar-athletes followed by women's soccer (11), men's track and field (9), softball (8), and field hockey (8). In addition, more than half (7 of 13) of the women's basketball team earned 3.0 cumulative averages.

The following is a sport-by-sport breakdown of Westfield State's scholar-athletes:

Baseball (4)
Tim Barry, Pat Jaehnig, Dan Lucia, Matt Paquette.
Men's Basketball (2)
Ethan Slavin, Joe Tomasini.
Women's Basketball (7)
Amanda Chapin, Leslie Cooke, Melissa Cote, Meghan McCarthy, Latesha Murphy, Kate Simonds, Alissa Tedesco.
Competition Cheering (4)
Jessica Hart, Dan Rice, Dan Sirois, Allison Vanasse.
Men's Cross Country (6)
Tom Bousquet, Nick Burke, Stephen Cole, William Davidian, Matt Frederick, Mike Sullivan.
Women's Cross Country (6)
Caitlin Bates, Catie Geldert, Laura Hurley, Kristin McCann, Alyssa Reid, Colleen WimberlY.
Field Hockey (8)
Ashley Brogan, Amy Eisenmann, Julie Flynn, Renee Gahan, Kendra Newell, Meg Perreault, Laura Scott, Theresa Yacovone.
Football (17)
Jay Abair, Chris Brown, Mike Hurteau, Jason LaValley, Adam Lapon, Ryan Longchamps, Mike Lorenzano, Brian Mazzone, Chris Meyer, Tim Miranda, Dan Navin, Kyle Piazza, Mike Schieb, David Trueira, John Walsh, Mike Williams, Matt Wooliver.
Men's Soccer (7)
Brian Ginisi, Ken Owens, Jay Payne, Tyler Roy, Pat Smith, Andy Tighe, Jon Witowski.
Women's Soccer (11)
Melissa Albano, Natalia Araszkiewicz, Sara Barrows, Amanda Chapin, Jenn Hendry, Lane Meskevich, Michelle Montvitt, Katie O'Brien, Julia Paone, Erin Reim, Jess Silva.
Softball (8)
Ashley Brogan, Kara Doleva, Liz Oliveira, Meg Perreault, Leah Peterson, Kate Pomerleau, Suzie Scott, Abby Wrinn.
Swimming and Diving (7)
Lindsey Bartosz, Colleen Boisvert, Courtney Burden, Erin Flynn, Kristin Loiko, Heather Nelson, Nicole Spataro.
Men's Track and Field (9)
Jay Abair, Greg Aucoin, Tom Bousquet, James Foley, Matt Frederick, Greg Haskell, Mark Howard, Josh Lewbel, Kyle Piazza.
Women's Track and Field (6)
Sara Coons, Caitlin Costello, Jen Howard, Kristin McCann, Andrea Sawler, Jess Silva.
Trainers (2)
Glenn Barbour, Michael Hall.
Volleyball (4)
Katelyn Foley, Danielle Mainini, Leah Schmidt, Andrea Tessier.

2002-2003

The Campus Voice
April 14, 2003

Westfield State Field House Photos

Photos Taken By Mickey Curtis on March 29, 2003

Baseball Team Ties Becker, 8-8

April 2003

WESTFIELD – Westfield State and Becker College played to an 8-8 tie in baseball action April 3.

The three-hour game was called after nine complete innings because of darkness. Westfield is 6-7-1 and Becker is 4-9-1.

The hard-luck Owls outhit Becker, 14-7, but they couldn't come up with the big hits. Westfield stranded 11 baserunners, including six in the last three innings. The game ended when Westfield lead-off hitter Josh Gosselin took a called third strike on a 3-2 pitch with the bases loaded.

Becker took advantage of five walks by Westfield starting pitcher Nate Hall and three Owl errors in the first two innings to score six runs, only two of which were earned.

Westfield kept pace by scoring three runs in both the first and second innings. The big blow was a two-run triple off the center field fence by hot hitting junior Pat Ryan of Adams.

Becker regained the lead, 8-6, in the fifth with another clutch two-out hit, a two-run double by Joe Bertolino.

The Owls scored a run in the seventh on a bases loaded no-out walk, but Becker got out of the jam on a forceout at homeplate, a botched suicide squeeze play, and a strikeout.

Westfield tied the score in the eighth inning. Nate Chase rapped a leadoff single, stoled second and scored on Gosselin's single up the middle. Gosselin immediately swiped second base, but he was doubled off the base to end the inning after Chris Visone's liner was caught by the shortstop.

Ryan was 3 for 4 with three runs scored, three RBI, a triple and two stolen bases. Gosselin was 3 for 6 with two doubles and an RBI. Collecting two singles apiece were Brian Uliasz and Chase.

Freshman J.P. Murphy of Pittsfield pitched well in relief for Westfield. He hurled seven and two-thirds innings, allowing two earned runs and five hits while fanning six.

Track & Field Results

Rhode Island College Invitational – April 6, 2003
Men's Track and Field Results

TEAM STANDINGS (13 teams): 1. Bentley 108; 2. Bryant 72; 3. WESTFIELD 57.5.

FIRST: Peter King, discus; 133-1; Peter King, shot put, 44-5.
SECOND: Mark Howard, hammer throw, 149-7; Dave Bergeron, javelin, 158-0; Tom Gilbert, shot put, 42-3.
THIRD: Matt Dissell, shot put, 41-5.
FOURTH: Mat LeMaire, 400 hurdles, 60.3.
FIFTH: Mat LeMaire, 100, 11.3; Tom Gilbert, hammer throw, 136-4.
SEVENTH: Eric Kelly, 400 hurdles, 61.4.

Rhode Island College Invitational – April 6, 2003
Women's Track and Field Results

TEAM STANDINGS (14 teams): 1. Bentley 99; 2. Stonehill 91; 3. Bryant 86; 4. Bridgewater 64; 13. WESTFIELD 6.

THIRD: Jen Howard, high jump, 4-8.
FIFTH: Caitlin Costello, long jump, 14-9.

Student-Athlete Volunteers Needed

Student-athletes interested in spending just a few hours in an elementary or middle school between now and the end of the semester please contact Nancy Bals at 572-5515. This enjoyable opportunity will not take much time and is great for your résumé.

3.0 Club Fete Set For April 17

One hundred (100) Westfield State College students will be recognized as scholar-athletes for completing the 2002 fall semester with cumulative grade point averages of 3.0 or better.

The 3.0 Club represents approximately 33 percent of the student-athletes at Westfield State College. In addition, 39 percent of the student-athletes (124 of 315) earned a 3.0 or better semester grade point average.

The 3.0 Club students will be honored Thursday evening, April 17, at 6:30 p.m. at the sixth annual athletics academic reception in Scanlon Hall. The honorees will have an opportunity to invite one of their professors to the reception as their special guests.

Students should make reservations to attend the reception by calling Nancy Bals at 572-5515 or returning their reservation form to the athletics department.

Softball Schedule

	April		
Wed.	16	at Amherst (2)	3:30
Fri.	18	at Western Connecticut (2)	3:30
Sat.	**19**	**FITCHBURG STATE (2)**	**12:00**
Mon.	21	at Worcester State (2)	12:00
Wed.	23	at Becker (tentative)	TBA
Thu.	**24**	**RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE (2)**	**3:00**
Sat.	**26**	**BRIDGEWATER STATE (2)**	**12:00**
Tue	29	at Massachusetts College (2)	3:00
	May		
Thu.	1	Conference Tournament	TBA
Sat.	3	Conference Tournament	TBA
Sun.	4	Conference Tournament	TBA

Baseball Schedule

	April		
Tue.	15	at Western Connecticut	4:00
Thu.	**17**	**NICHOLS**	**3:00**
Sat.	**19**	**FITCHBURG STATE (2)**	**12:00**
Mon.	21	at Worcester State (2)	12:00
Thu.	24	at Keene State	3:30
Sat.	**26**	**BRIDGEWATER STATE (2)**	**12:00**
Tue.	29	at Massachusetts College (2)	2:00
	May		
Sat.	**3**	**FRAMINGHAM STATE (2)**	**12:00**
Mon.	5	at Springfield College	3:30
Thu.	8	Conference Tournament	TBA

2002-2003

2002-2003

Owls Cruise To Crown

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – In another outstanding display of talent and depth, the Westfield State men's track and field team captured its seventh straight Mass. State Conference championship on Sunday, April 27.

The Owls compiled 254 points to easily outdistance second place Bridgewater State (132 points) in claiming their 27th MASCAC title in 32 years. Last year Westfield won the meet with a whopping 308 points, but the Owls were unable to duplicate that total this season because of injuries to four of their top five sprinters.

"For the most part everything went as I expected," said coach Sean O'Brien. "The guys went out and did what they had to do."

The Owls got an awesome effort from their throwers and jumpers. In those seven field events, Westfield racked up 127 points, including 78 in the shot put, discus and hammer throw. Westfield had the same number of points (127) in the 12 running events.

"You can't say enough about our field people, they really dominated," said O'Brien. "And we could have had some more points but (freshman) Shawn McCorquodale, who was seeded first in the long jump, failed to qualify for the finals because he fouled on his first two attempts and jumped 19-1 on the third attempt, which in most years would have gotten him into the finals."

The Owls placed first in 10 of the 20 events. Freshman Daniel Dillard was the lone double winner, finishing first in the long jump (22-4 1/4) and the 200 (23.43). Dillard also was a member of the winning 4 x 100 (44.23) and 4 x 400 (3:29.36) relays and finished second in the 400.

Senior Ryan Fregeau turned in a gutty performance in defending his title in the 100 with a time of 11.27. Fregeau, who was expected to miss his entire senior year with a foot injury, was given clearance to compete a day before the meet.

Despite a lack of training, Fregeau's time was respectable and his effort inspirational, according to O'Brien. Fregeau competed in one other event, anchoring the 4 x 400 relay.

Also defending their MASCAC crowns were sophomore Geoff Churchill in the steeplechase (10:07.5), senior Tom Gilbert in the shot put (45-7 1/4), and sophomore Peter King (140-11) in the discus. Mark Howard claimed the hammer throw (158-8) title and McCorquodale bounced back to win the triple jump (43-2 1/4).

King and Gilbert finished second in the shot and hammer, respectively. Also placing second were: Aaron Larcom (100), Tom Bousquet (1500), Andy Barron (10,000), Mat LeMaire (110 hurdles, 400 hurdles), Josh Lewbel (long jump), Scott Umbrianna (discus), and Dave Bergeron (javelin). Bergeron and LeMaire were members of the 4 x 100 relay. Freshman Eric Kelly ran on both winning relays, and finished third in the high jump.

Also placing third were: Lewbel (100), Bousquet (5000), Matt Dissell (shot put), and Howard (discus).

MEN'S TRACK AND FIELD - First Row (L-R): Aaron Larcom, Dave Bergeron, Chris Hume, Greg Aucoin, Ryan Fregeau, Josh Lewbel, Chris Martin, Tom Bousquet, Matt Frederick. Second Row: Kyle Piazza, Peter King, Scott Umbrianna, Jim Foley, Mat LeMaire, Daniel Dillard, Matt Dissell, Eric Kelly, Greg Haskell, Mark Howard, Jim Creed. Third Row: Andy Barron, Shawn McCorquodale, Tom Gilbert, Bryon Baily. Missing: Geoff Churchill, Jay Cunha.

MAY 2003

Women Win Sixth Straight MASCAC

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – Not to be outdone by its male counterparts, the Westfield State women's track and field team has created a dynasty of its own by capturing its sixth straight Mass. State Conference championship on April 27.

The Owls edged rival Bridgewater State for the team title for the second straight year. Westfield finished with 183 points and Bridgewater tallied 171. Bridgewater could have shared the conference crown with Westfield, but the Bears' stellar 4 x 400 relay team was disqualified.

"It was a very deserving victory and a total team effort," said coach Sean O'Brien. "Each year our women look forward to this meet and many of them are willing to compete in multiple events."

The Owls placed first in seven of the 20 events. Junior Jess Silva had another busy day, placing in four individual events and running on the two championship relay squads. Silva nearly set a new conference record in the 800 with a time of 2:20.3; she also finished third in the 100 and long jump, and fifth in the 200.

Four freshmen also claimed conference crowns: Kristen Esposito (400), Heather Wenninger (5000), Caitlin Bates (10,000) and Danyelle Dillard (long jump).

Esposito and Dillard, along with sophomore Christine Byrne, ran on the 4 x 100 relay, while Bryne and Esposito, along with Andrea Sawler, were members of the 4 x 400.

Esposito also finished third in the 200 and fourth in the 100, while Dillard was fourth in the 200 and fifth in the 100.

Two other freshmen also were quite active. Caitlin "CC" Costello competed in nine events and placed second in the 100 hurdles and triple jump, and fourth in the long jump and discus. Katy Winter also placed in four events: third in the triple jump and 100 hurdles, fourth in the high jump, and fifth in the long jump.

Jen Howard was second in the high jump, fifth in the 400 hurdles, and sixth in the long jump.

2002-2003

Softball Team Clinches Second Place

May 7 2003

NORTH ADAMS – The Westfield State softball team rallied for two dramatic extra-innings victories over Massachusetts College on Tuesday, April 29.

The 16-10 Owls swept the eight-inning games, 9-3 and 3-2, to clinch second place in the conference's regular season with a 10-4 record. Westfield hosted Fitchburg State on Thursday, May 1, in an opening round game of the MASCAC postseason tournament.

Trailing 3-0 in the opener, the Owls scored a run in the fifth on an RBI double by Tasha Goulet. They tied the score in the sixth on an RBI single by Kate Pomerleau and a passed ball.

The Owls then erupted for six runs on five hits, including three doubles, in the extra inning. Leah Peterson singled to drive in the winning run and Pomerleau rapped a two-run single.

Goulet, Peterson and Pomerleau each had two hits. Winning pitcher Sarah Simmons scattered nine hits, gave up two walks and struck out two.

Trailing 2-0 in game two, the Owls rallied for two runs in the seventh. Pomerleau smashed a double off the center field fence, then scored on a Peterson's one-out single. Peterson advanced to second on the throw home, then scored on Casey Greggo's pinch hit bloop single down the right field line.

The Owls got a big break in the eighth inning in scoring the game-winning run. With Suzie Scott – the tiebreaker runner – at second base, Amanda Fregeau lined out to the first baseman for the second out. The first baseman attempted to double Scott off second base, but her errant throw sailed into the left-center field gap, allowing Scott to score.

Mass. College had runners at first and second with no outs in the bottom of the eighth, but starting and winning pitcher Leah Peterson got out of the jam with a flyout to center field and two strikeouts.

Men Defend Alliance Title

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – The Westfield State men's track and field won its sixth straight New England Alliance championship on Sunday, April 27, at Rhode Island College.

Westfield totaled 169 points in the 10-team meet, which was held in conjunction with the MASAC championship. Eastern Connecticut State finished second (138) followed by Bridgewater (96.33).

Claiming titles for the Owls were Daniel Dillard in the long jump, Shawn McCorquodale in the triple jump, Tom Gilbert in the shot put, Peter King in the discus, and Mark Howard in the hammer throw.

In the Alliance women's meet, the Owls placed fourth with 102 points, trailing Southern Maine (232), Bridgewater (105), and Keene State (103). Individual champions were Jess Silva in the 800 and Heather Wenninger in the 5000.

WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD - First Row (L-R): Andrea Sawler, Kristen Esposito, Christine Byrne, Jess Silva, Danyelle Dillard, Jen Howard, Jillian Slyva, Kristin McCann, Marissa Blume. Second row: Aimee Worcester, Nicole Spataro, Erin Coburn, Laura Hurley, Caitlin Bates, Katy Winter, Heather Wenninger, Jill Byrne, Sheila Mulherin, Caitlin Costello.

2002-2003

Track & Field Results

May 2003

MASCAC MEET

WOMEN'S TEAM SCORES: Westfield 183; Bridgewater 171; Fitchburg 87; Worcester 59; Salem 43.

FIRST: Kristen Esposito, 400, 1:01.66; Jess Silva, 800, 2:20.3; Heather Wenninger, 5000, 19:20.01; Caitlin Bates, 10,000, 47:47.57; 4 x 100 Relay (Esposito, Christine Byrne, Dillard, Sillva), 52.11; 4 x 400 Relay (Christine Byrne, Sawler, Esposito, Silva), 4:37; Danyelle Dillard, long jump, 16-8.75.

SECOND: Caitlin Costello, 100 hurdles, 17.67; Caitlin Costello, triple jump, 31-10; Jen Howard, high jump, 5-0; Nicole Spataro, javelin, 86-1.

THIRD: Jess Silva, 100, 12.85; Kristen Esposito, 200, 26.33; Katy Winter, 100 hurdles, 18.13; Jess Silva, long jump, 16-1.5; Katy Winter, triple jump, 30-10.5; Jillian Slyva, discus, 88-3.

FOURTH: Kristen Esposito, 100, 13.12; Danyelle Dillard, 200, 26.75; Andrea Sawler, 800, 2:40.1; Caitlin Costello, long jump, 15-4.25; Katy Winter, high jump, 4-8; Caitlin Costello, discus, 88-3; Sheila Mulherin, 5000, 21:30.42.

FIFTH: Danyelle Dillard, 100, 13.13; Jess Silva, 200, 27.07; Aimee Worcester, 800; 2:44.87; Heather Wenninger, 1500, 5:29.01; Jen Howard, 400 hurdles, 1:16.83; Katy Winter, long jump, 13-9.5.

SIXTH: Aimee Worcester, 1500, 5:31.02; Kristin McCann, 5000, 23:41.07; Jill Byrne, 400 hurdles, 1:19.61; Jen Howard, long jump, 13-9.5; Erin Coburn, shot put, 25-5.5.

MEN'S TEAM SCORES: Westfield 254; Bridgewater 132; Fitchburg 98; Worcester 69; Salem 36.

FIRST: Ryan Fregeau, 100, 11.27; Daniel Dillard, 200, 23.33; Geoff Churchill, 3000 steeplechase, 10:07.50; 4 x 100 relay (Dillard, Bergeron, LeMaire, Kelly), 44.23; 4 x 400 relay (McCorquodale, Kelly, Dillard, Fregeau), 3:29.36; Daniel Dillard, long jump, 22-4.25; Shawn McCorquodale, triple jump, 43-2.25; Mark Howard, hammer throw, 158-8; Tom Gilbert; shot put, 45-7.25; Peter King, discus, 140-11.

SECOND: Aaron Larcom, 100, 11.32; Daniel Dillard, 400, 51.59; Tom Bousquet, 1500, 4:09.72; Andy Barron, 10,000, 35:36.7; Mat LeMaire, 110 hurdles, 15.4; Mat LeMaire, 400 hurdles, 58.1; Josh Lewbel, long jump, 20-10.5; Tom Gilbert, hammer throw, 140-7; Peter King, shot put, 45-4.25; Scott Umbrianna, discus, 116-8; Dave Bergeron, javelin, 168-0.

THIRD: Josh Lewbel, 100, 11.47; Tom Bousquet, 5000, 16:35.07; Eric Kelly, high jump, 6-0; Matt Dissell, shot put, 45-1.5; Mark Howard, discus, 116-2.

FOURTH: Shawn McCorquodale, 400, 52.57; Matt Frederick, 800, 2:01.43; Geoff Churchill, 1500, 4:23.44; Jay Cunha, 3000 steeplechase, 11:24.1; Kyle Piazza, 40-2; Josh Lewbel, high jump, 6-0; Matt Dissell, discus, 111-7.

FIFTH: Jim Foley, hammer throw, 107-5; Greg Haskell, javelin, 161-2.

SIXTH: Matt Frederick, 5000, 17:32.53; Jim Foley, high jump, 5-8; Jim Foley, shot put, 38-5.5; Tom Gilbert, discus, 104-11.